



Thursday, August 10, 2017

Read by more than 46,000 people

Price when sold 70p

Councillors quit amid 'destructive infighting' in party

LABOUR IS DEALT TWO BIG BLOWS

By Peter Madeley

TWO councillors have quit Labour over 'destructive infighting' they say is stopping the party from properly representing the public.

Rowley councillor and former mayor Barbara Price and Bristnall councillor Steven Frear will now serve as independents after resigning the party whip.

It came as the authority's leader Steve Eling warned more Labour councillors were likely to quit in the coming days. He said the exodus is part of the fallout from former deputy leader Councillor Mahboob Hussain's failed bid to quash the publication of the Wragge report into alleged misconduct.

Mr Frear said he believed the party and its members had become 'too distracted by internal politics and conflict' and had 'lost sight' of the reasons why they were elected.

He feels his remarks 'ring true' for other serving councillors and added: "As an independent, I am now free of such destructive infighting to focus on what's important and that is to represent my own neighbourhood and its residents."

Mrs Price, first elected in 1998, said: "I didn't take the decision to stand down lightly but I have to stand by my principles. There is a lot of infighting among the group and I don't want to be involved in the Labour party at this moment in time. There are a lot of us that feel let down."

Mr Eling said: "There are some people aligned with Mahboob Hussain who are clearly not happy and I think we will see others leave," he said. "The reality is that the Labour group in Sandwell is working better now than it has done in a long, long time."

Last year the Labour party in the borough also saw councillors splitting into rival camps during a leadership election that followed the death of council leader Darren Cooper.

BRAVE SISTER INSPIRES JENSON TO RUN FOR MILES



Head-boy Jenson Cole with the trophy and cash raised for Springfield Primary from months of running a mile each day

A YOUNG footballer has raised hundreds of pounds for his school after running a mile every day over six months.

Jenson Cole, aged 11, from Rowley Regis, took up the challenge as part of a pledge he made to become head boy of Year 6 at Springfield Primary in Rowley Regis.

He was inspired by the ordeal his 23-year-old sister Ellie faced battling cancer in 2015 before making a full recovery.

His proud mother Lisa Cole, 45, said:

"When he went into Year 6, he applied to be head boy. To become head boy you have got to show why you are worthy of getting the position. He decided he would raise money for the school.

"He came up with the idea of running a mile a day every day from January 1."

Jenson carried on the challenge until he left the school in July.

He will be starting at St Michael's CE High School, in Rowley Regis, in September. He

has been described as 'football mad' by his mother. Jenson plays for Lye Town in the Midland Junior Premier League.

He paid tribute to his sister, who has a twin called Tom, in a speech he read out to the school during the end of the year assembly.

Lisa said it was an emotional speech which brought tears to people's eyes, and in it Jenson said he would like the money he raised, around £230, to be spent on organising a fun activity for pupils.

CONSTRUCTION

New plans for six flats after objection

NEW plans have been put forward to build six flats in Dudley.

A planning application submitted to Dudley Council seeks to build the three-story properties on land adjacent to 76 Birmingham Road.

An objection to the plans was submitted to the local authority in May, which complained that the new development would affect parking in the area which is already an issue.

But the applicant has submitted a new plan to the council last week.

The council is yet to make a decision.

CRIME

Man charged over stabbing of woman

A MAN has been charged with attempted murder after a woman was stabbed multiple times in Lye.

Gheorghe Mihai, aged 37, from Park Street, Lye, is also charged with attempted grievous bodily harm on a man. He was due to appear at Dudley Magistrates Court yesterday morning.

It is believed the woman was attacked in a flat off the High Street.

● Heartbroken – Page 3

FIRE

Girl, three, taken to hospital after blaze

A THREE-YEAR-OLD girl was taken to hospital after inhaling smoke from a kitchen fire.

Fire crews from Oldbury and Haden Cross were called to a blaze in Elbow Street, Old Hill, at 8.45pm Monday. The girl, a woman in her 20s and another in her 60s all suffered smoke inhalation and were taken to Russells Hall Hospital.

INSIDE



PAGE 17

JORDANS SOLICITORS

*Friendly, efficient
and price
competitive*



Here at
Jordans Solicitors
we offer, Conveyancing
both Residential and
Commercial, Wills and
Probate, Powers of Attorney
& Family Law...

If the regular office hours 9.00am to 5.00pm
Monday to Friday are not very convenient
for you we can offer Thursday evening and
Saturday morning

1 Summer Hill, Halesowen B63 3BU Tel: 0121 585 3900
35 Payne Street, Blackheath, West Midlands B65 0DH
Telephone: 0121 559 2922

www.jordans-solicitors.co.uk

2 CONTENTS

OPINION	6
LETTERS	7
CLUB NEWS	9
MOTORING	17
THE TICKET	25
TV	28
GREAT BIG THANK YOU	33
SPORT	39
CONTACT US	

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Emma Parkes
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: emma.parkes@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey
Tel: 01902 313131 ext 3731
E-mail: colin.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Dudley
CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

DON'T MISS YOUR
Express & Star

EVERY DAY
ON THE BALL
All your latest sports updates

EVERY SATURDAY
NIGEL HASTILOW
He always tackles the hot topics head-on

Barking Glad Salon

Dog Grooming
Pick Up and Return Available



Irena Szirtes
Lynn Styles
6 Wassell Road, Halesowen B63 4JU
0121 550 7446
barkinggladdoggrooming@gmail.com
www.barkinggladdoggrooming.co.uk

Concept BLINDS

UP TO **50% OFF** ALL BLINDS

Vertical & Roller Blinds
New season fabrics now available

Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge

5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Also available

- Romans • Pleated
- Conservatory Roof Blinds
- Wood Venetians
- Venetian Blinds
- Curved Tracks for Bay Windows

FREEPHONE 0800 5875279
Open Seven Days a Week
0121 429 3169

FREE Home Quote. FAST Delivery

Halesowen Fireplaces
AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499 (including fire)

360° VIRTUAL TOUR NOW ON WEBSITE

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985

Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

Footworks Chiropody
NHS Registered Chiropodists

Ingrown Toe Nails Treated
Toe Nail Cutting and Trimming
Diabetic Foot Care
General Foot Care
Callus Reduction

Home Visit Service Also Available
01384 413444
201 - 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HT

BROKEN DENTURES?
AT THE DENTAL SHOP

Need Your Dentures Repairing Fast Well Look No Further We Are The Leading Specialists In Denture Repairs!

We Also Offer A Denture Cleaning Service!

01384 413444
07701 067261

Emergency Weekend Repair Service Available

Glimmer of hope for supermarket giant



Supermarket giant Asda

ASDA has laid bare a disastrous 2016 in which sales and profits collapsed as the firm came out worse for wear in Britain's supermarket wars.

The Walmart-owned firm, which has supermarkets in Dudley High Street, Netherton, Brierly Hill, Coseley, Merry Hill and Oldbury – and a Sedgeley store opening on August 14 – saw sales drop 3.2 per cent to £21.7 billion in the year to December 31, while pre-tax profits crashed almost 19 per cent to £791.7 million.

Like-for-like sales also plummeted by 5.7 per cent, according to accounts

filed at Companies House. The figures crystallise a torrid time for the grocery giant, which has reported 11 consecutive quarters of sales declines.

"The grocery market has continued to experience low growth throughout the year and competition in the sector has remained intense," the company said. "Our sales performance, relative to the market, was behind our expectations."

However, Asda added that despite the disappointing results, there are signs turnaround efforts under new boss Sean Clarke are starting to bear fruit.

The group pointed to the final quarter

of 2016, when it said improvements in ranges and price cuts were paying off.

Last August Asda posted its worst ever quarterly sales fall of 7.5 per cent.

All of the so-called Big Four supermarkets – Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's and Morrisons – have suffered as German discounters Aldi and Lidl have gobbled up market share.

Meanwhile, a family fun day was held ahead of the official Sedgeley store opening. It ran at the site off High Holborn from noon to 4pm on Saturday and saw charities selling goods throughout the fun day.

Jobless mother defends decision to buy horse

A MOTHER-OF-EIGHT who receives £26,000 a year in benefits has defended her decision to spend thousands of pounds on a horse, saying: "It's like buying a car, what's the difference?"

Former stripper Marie Buchan put aside £500 to buy the animal from a supplier in the Black Country, with food, stable and delivery costs likely to send her annual outlay up to £3,600.

The jobless 35-year-old said she planned to splash out on a 14-hands cob mare from Bilston, with a stable already prepared in Halesowen.

She has been criticised for exploiting the benefits system.

Wanted

Brummie Ms Buchan, whose eight children are aged between three and 15, said: "I want a horse and I'm going to get it."

"I've wanted one for a long, long time – since before I had the kids."

"I'm going to ride it. I wouldn't mind getting a horse that needs breaking in, more as a challenge than anything."

"The haters are going to hate, I know they are."

"But I grew up around horses and now it's time to have my own."

Ms Buchan previously caused fury when she appeared on ITV show This Morning and said she preferred saving her care worker wages for a 'boob job' rather than using it for her family, insisting 'child tax credits and working tax credits pay for the kids'.

She has the £600-a-month rent on her four-bedroom council house paid for out of the public purse, and also claims £440 a month in child benefit and £1,604 child tax credits. She said



Marie Buchan, right, with Deirdre Kelly, who found fame as 'White D' on TV show Benefits Street

that she cannot work at the moment due to depression – after blaming sexism and 'sleazy men' for preventing her from getting her dream job working as a mechanic.

Ms Buchan said she has applied for dozens of positions after gaining a Level 2 diploma in mechanics but had been 'knocked back' on each occasion.

Two years ago' she complained that the Government was not supporting larger families who, she said, would feel there was 'no point' in finding work until their children are older.

James Price, campaign manager at The TaxPayers' Alliance, said: "The benefits system is there to provide a safety net for when people fall on

Hospital say 10,000 more patients are flooding A&E

HOSPITAL bosses say they are braced for 'challenges ahead' as increasing patients continue to file into A&E.

It comes as more than 10,000 extra patients are expected at the Russells Hall Hospital department in Dudley over the course of this year.

Speaking at a board meeting earlier this week, trust members said it would put 'pressure on the front line'. Health bosses revealed an extra 30 patients a day have been coming in this year.

Staff are currently having to deal with an average of 300 patients a day – up from 270 last year. More ambulances have also been arriving at the hospital than other hospitals, putting added pressure on services. Preparations have already been put in place for winter, amid concerns the hospital could be pushed towards breaking point.

Paul Bytheway, chief operating officer, said: "A&E continues to be our biggest challenge as activity continues to rise. June was the highest average delay for the last two years. We have had over 100 ambulances a day, which has put pressure on the front line."

Jenni Ord, chair of the meeting, added: "With action plans in place then that will enable us to move forward."

£500k bid to ease health pressures

COUNCIL bosses are aiming to ease pressure on hospital and social care services with a £500,000 investment to support elderly and vulnerable people.

The money will primarily be used to support people with an increased risk of needing hospital or social care services by encouraging them to become more active and involved in their communities.

Voluntary groups will be given funding to focus on trying to prevent people from becoming overweight as well as tackling isolation and loneliness. People will also be offered advice on how they can best manage their own health.

Dudley Council's social care boss Councillor Nicolas Barlow said: "Evidence shows leading a more active and independent lifestyle can do wonders for a person's health."

Ball raises £4,000 for unpaid carers

A BEACH-THEMED charity ball raised more than £4,000 for unpaid carers.

The inaugural WeLoveCarers ball at the Copthorne Hotel raised a total of £4,600. The independent charity helps unpaid carers in Dudley.

Paedophile jailed over snapstaken on trains

A PAEDOPHILE from the Black Country has been jailed after taking images of children on trains while exposing himself.

Officers from The National Crime Agency raised the alarm after the images of young girls were uploaded to a website.

British Transport Police's cyber crime unit traced the source of the photographs to an address at a property in Worcester.

The address was where Paul Malcolm Owen had been renting a room.

Officers seized a computer on which they found eight indecent images of children.

Filming

There was also footage of Owen behaving inappropriately while filming children.

He had also been filming over the top of changing rooms at a swimming baths, British Transport Police said.

Owen, aged 40, of Bromley Lane, Kingswinford, has now been jailed for 16 months.

He pleaded guilty at Worcester Crown Court to engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child, and exposing himself in front of a child.

He also admitted voyeurism, and possessing eight indecent images of children.

The crimes came to light in October last year.

Chance for young to star in TV show

MIDLAND youngsters are wanted to act as extras for CBBC show Jamie Johnson.

The much-loved children's programme centres around a boy who lives and breathes football.

Viewers have joined Jamie with his struggle to settle into a new school, search for his absent father and make the all-important football team.

Now, the show is set to return for a third run on CBBC, and producers want children from the region, as well as their parents, to serve as extras if possible. Those wishing to apply need to ideally be Midlands-based, as the show is filmed in Nottingham.

People can email jamiejohnson@shortformfilm.com for more information.

Blazing rubbish

A PILE of rubbish caught fire on an embankment near a road.

West Midlands Fire Service was called to Nelson Street in Oldbury at 12.24am on Sunday where a quantity of waste was on fire.

Officers to double up for Taser training



The old-style single-shot X26 Taser

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE is to more than double the number of officers trained to use Tasers following the terrorist murder of PC Keith Palmer.

The force will today unveil plans to train 800 extra officers to use the electrical firearm on top of the 600 already equipped to carry them, bringing the total to 1,400.

They will also upgrade to a newer model of the weapon capable of firing two separate 50,000 volt shots without reloading.

It comes after what Chief Constable

Dave Thompson described as the 'deadly and determined threats' facing unarmed officers and cited recent terror attacks.

Speaking at a public consultation, he said: "We have seen recent events, particularly in the UK's changing security landscape, where we have seen unarmed officers facing deadly and determined threats.

"We have seen it very recently with the death of Keith Palmer guarding the gates of Parliament – but also in the London Bridge attack.

"So there is a context at the mo-

ment where, both in terms of protection of our officers but also our ability to intervene and protect the public, we are having to strike that balance to say do we have the balance right at the moment?"

The force will move from the current X26 Taser to the newer X2 model, which has been in use in the US since 2011.

The X2 model allows two separate shots to be fired in quick succession.

The new model was approved by the Home Secretary Amber Rudd earlier this year.

We're heartbroken at losing our loving Ryan

THE heartbroken family of 24-year-old stab victim Ryan Passey have paid tribute to their 'loving' son, in the wake of a second stabbing in the area in just 48 hours.

Ryan was attacked at Chicago's on the Rye Market in Stourbridge at around 1am on Sunday and died later in hospital.

And his 19-year-old girlfriend Paige Marsh-Roberts spoke fondly of her football-loving boyfriend, describing him as 'amazing'. Ryan had played for Team Dudley and Stourbridge Football Club's youth side in the past, but most recently played for Stourbridge Athletic and Wren's Nest.

Charged

And yesterday, a teenager appeared in court charged with Ryan's murder. Kobe Murray is accused of stabbing him in the chest. Murray, 19, of The Broadway, Dudley, appeared at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday.

Two more 19-year-olds have been released without charge.

Meanwhile, a man has been charged with attempted murder after a woman in her 20s was stabbed multiple times in Lye. Gheorghe Mihai, 37, from Park Street, Lye, is also charged with attempted grievous bodily harm on a man. He was due to appear at Dudley Magistrates Court this morning.

The woman was stabbed multiple times in a flat above shops off the town's High Street – the second such incident in the area in just 48 hours.

And further tributes to Ryan were paid by his family, with his father saying: "He was such a loving lad. A friend to everyone, he was kind-hearted, popular and always doing the best for his family."

Ryan's devastated father, Adrian 'Ada' Passey, was speaking from the family home in Quarry Bank. Sur-

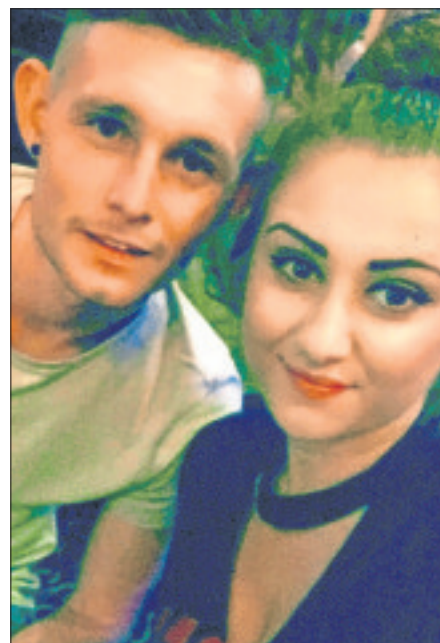


Ryan Passey, on the left, and best friend Jordan Poole

rounded by family and friends, Mr Passey spoke of his love and admiration for his only child.

He explained: "He was a loving lad and loved his football. He lived for that. No one had a bad word to say about him.

"His friends were important to him too, he was inseparable from his best mate Jordan Poole – they had grown



Ryan, 24, with his girlfriend Paige Marsh-Roberts, 19

up together and liked to go out. He never caused us any trouble and was never in trouble with the police. He was just a great lad and now we are at a loss without him."

And Paige spoke of Ryan being a loving and caring boyfriend. She said: "We had been together for around a year-and-a-half. He was amazing. He could always make me laugh." His

grandparents, Maggie and Jim McNally, were also present. Mrs McNally said: "We could not have wished for a better grandson. He was a model child. He only came last week. Thank God I got one last chance to see him."

Jilly and Phil Taylor, his mother and step-father, spoke of their heartbreak: "We are devastated. How do you accept something like this?"

Volunteers call for new helpers

A VOLUNTEER group is to start work sprucing up a beauty spot – and are appealing for helpers to join them. The Friends of Hurst Green Park have already overseen a number of improvements at the site in Halesowen over the last 12 months.

Carol Hackett, chairman of The Friends of Hurst Green Park, said: "We can't thank enough all the volunteers who have given up their time to help us over the past 12 months. Our next big project starts in September."

Provisional dates are the mornings of September 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 and 22.

Anyone interested in helping out is asked to contact 0121 559 6061.

Live war grenades are found in house

TWO live Second World War grenades were found in a Black Country street sparking an evacuation.

The explosives were found in a house that was being cleared to be sold off in Corbyns Hall Lane, Briarley Hill. One of the grenades was destroyed by a controlled explosion on playing fields at Brockmoor Community Centre, while the second grenade was taken away for examination.

A West Midlands Police spokesman told the Express & Star: "A controlled explosion took place after the discovery."

Grannies to bite into the Big Apple

THE Dancing Grannies are heading for New York to join up with an unusual dance partner.

The Grannies, brainchild of the Fizzogs comedy group, will cross the Atlantic on September 11.

They will perform in Times Square alongside local favourite The Naked Cowboy, a busker who performs wearing just a pair of briefs and his guitar. He was keen to join up with the Grannies when he learned they were travelling to New York.

Fizzog Deb Nicholls said: "We are going to see how New York reacts."

Scream for ice cream with Cornbow freebie

SHOPPERS will be screaming for ice cream at The Cornbow shopping centre this month.

The centre, in Halesowen, is giving away a free ice cream to its first 100 visitors between 10am and 2pm on Friday, August 18.

Just visit The Cornbow's Facebook page and retrieve a password. You will need to quote this password to the ice cream attendant – who will be located on Hagley Street.



HALESTONE MEMORIALS

Traditional & Modern Memorials
• Restorations • Repairs • ReGilds

Showroom Sales
now on until the end of
August 2017

Phone for free brochure
0121 550 4235
or visit our showroom at: Somers Rd, Halesowen B62 8EN
www.halestonememorials.co.uk

JFB GATES & RAILINGS




• IRON GATES • IRON RAILINGS
• BALUSTRADES

Pop in and see us -
lots of offers on

www.jfbgatesandrailings.co.uk

Unit 20 Waterside Ind. Est. Mariot Road,
Netherton DY2 9RG 07793 753320 01384 573823

Theatre hopes for town's former Pulse club dashed

HOPES that a notorious former nightclub could be transformed into a theatre have been dashed after planning bosses threw out an application.

Developers said Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill, which was the scene of a shooting in 2014, could be a new 'hippodrome'. But officers at Dudley Council said the scheme was not suitable, and councillors refused a 'change of use application' last week. The listed building in Dudley Road has been empty since its closure in 2014.

Homes will give new life to ex-factory

A CANALSIDE development featuring more than 50 homes is set to transform a former factory site.

A total of 35 homes and 22 apartments would be built near The Waterfront business park in Brierley Hill, under plans backed by planning officers. Former factory buildings on the Canal Street site have already been demolished paving the way to begin, with the project set to be rubber-stamped by councillors next week.

All of the homes are expected to be affordable. Brierley Hill councillor Rachel Harris said the development would be welcome. She said: "We always welcome new developments, particularly in this area, as long as they are appropriate for local people."

A final decision on the scheme is due to be made by Dudley Council's planning committee on Tuesday.

It is well-known in the area having once been a cinema and then a bingo hall.

Council documents on the plan state: "The highways engineer expressed severe concerns relating to the lack of both on and off-street parking."

"But the principle of development cannot be supported as the scheme is contrary to the Development Plan and the proposal would not result in the creation of a sustainable form of development - thereby failing to improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area."

In earlier officer visits, it was noted that the change of use would potentially 'aid in revitalising the immediate street scene as the building has been closed for a considerable length of time'. One objection was received raising concerns relating to parking at the site.

Councillor Zafar Islam, who represents the Brierley Hill ward, said: "There have been a number of parking concerns around the area for some years now as the side streets were also used as rat runs."

"I think that a club and a hippodrome are two different concepts, but the issue may be more with the site itself."

Heathens hope for full speed-way ahead



Homeward bound? - Andrew Hale, Mark Robinson, Paul Tromans and Rob Knowles of the supporters' trust

'If you don't dream, then nothing will come true'.

So say the group behind plans to build a new track for Cradley Heathens as they unveiled their vision at the site they hope will become the club's new home.

The Heathens Speedway Supporters' Trust have drawn up proposals for the track at the Lion Farm Estate in Oldbury. They say showing off the plans at the site brought home the

reality of their situation - and reaffirmed their desire to bring Heathens' two-decade nomadic journey to an end.

Mark Robinson, from the supporters' trust, said: "We've worked really hard to get to this point and we're hopeful we've covered all the bases. The only opposition we can think of will come from the community - especially people closest to it."

"We have to try to get across to them that although speedway is noisy it's

only one day a week - and only during the summer. We're also going to hold a public meeting later this month and leaflet the area."

Mr Robinson said he was confident the plans will get the green light, despite Sandwell Council leader Steve Eling suggesting the track could cause concerns among residents.

Mr Robinson added: "It's ours to lose - we've done all the research."

● **Club reaction - Back Page**

Man, 19, met girl, 14, for sex at hotel

A MAN who had sex with an underage girl after they met through the internet has walked free.

James Durrant, 19 at the time but now aged 20, initially got in touch in August last year via smartphone application Snapchat, a judge heard. Four months later they agreed to meet and the defendant travelled from his home in Cornwall, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

He booked into a hotel in Dudley borough on January 12 and they had consensual sex on four occasions over the next four days, revealed Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting. She told her foster parents he was aged 15 or 16. Police were alerted after the family realised Durrant was older when he had tea with them. He was arrested and immediately admitted knowing her true age. She confirmed she had consented to what took place.

Mr Jason Pegg, defending, said: "She wanted this relationship and does not want him punished."

Durrant, from Penzance, pleaded guilty to sexual activity with an under age girl and was given six months detention in a Young Offenders Institution, suspended for a year. He must pay £300 costs, was made the subject of a Sexual Harm Prevention Order for five years and put on the Sex Offender Register for seven years.

Trade mission is targeting Canada

THE West Midlands Mayor is leading a trade mission to Canada this week in a bid to boost the region's economy post-Brexit.

Andy Street has been joined by Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce head Paul Faulkner on the trip to Toronto, where they will meet with business leaders.

BORSHCH

Gas & Electrical Superstore

PEAR TREE LANE, DUDLEY
DY2 0QU • 01384 571 879

Open: Mon - Sat 9.30am-6pm Sun 10am-4pm

Cooking

RANGE COOKERS



SINGLE OVENS



GAS COOKERS



Laundry

TUMBLE DRYERS



Hoover Oven



Refrigeration

CHEST FREEZERS



FRIDGE FREEZERS



WASHING MACHINES



Integrated Appliances

INTEGRATED HOBS



INTEGRATED WASHING MACHINES



INTEGRATED FRIDGE FREEZERS



FREE STANDARD DELIVERY

ON PURCHASES OVER £150.00 WITH THIS VOUCHER
VALID UNTIL
SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST 2017

OTHER BRANCHES IN...

BIRMINGHAM
Upper Trinity Street
Birmingham B9 4EG
0121 773 6361

WALSALL
Unit 17-19
Victorian Arcade WS1 1RE
01922 279927

ERDINGTON
1-41 Sutton Road
Erdington B23 6QH
0121 448 0202

Extended guarantee available • Members of Retra • Pictures for illustration purposes only • Prices subject to availability • Sirius Retailer of the Year 2012



www.borshchelectric.co.uk



Winter Sale! Spring Sale! Summer Sale! Autumn Sale!

No matter what our competitors offer we are affordable all year round

AFFORDABLE WINDOWS DOORS AND CONSERVATORIES

Call Steve Now on

07710 434223 or 01902 827879

www.wolverhamptonwindows.co.uk



BOWKETTS
of Oldbury
ESTABLISHED 1938
NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Your local family Butchers. Quality Fresh Meat, Award Winning sausages, Award Winning Pies, Pasties, Baguettes, Buffets and cold drinks



686 Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands. Sat Nav Use B68 8DB
0121-552-1210

www.bowkettsoldbury.co.uk
sales@bowkettsoldbury.co.uk

Open 7 Days
Monday 8am - 2.30pm • Tues to Sat 8am - 5.00pm
Sunday 8am - 2.30pm

WE NAILED IT!



Classified Advertising Works!

To advertise your business call **01902 319 191**

Howl-fest at the castle already gets resurrected

AN OPEN-AIR film event which brought in a crowd of more than 1,000 has been considered a roaring success – prompting plans to expand the series next year.

Fantasy horror film *An American Werewolf in London* was screened to a sold-out crowd at the castle grounds.

The Flatpack Cinema event on Saturday followed on from last year's screening of *Bride of Frankenstein*.

Derek Grove, Dudley Zoo director, said: "It went very well. About 1,100 attended the event.

"We did *Frankenstein* last year, which was a trial, really, and we topped it this year by selling out.

"It was a fantastic atmosphere. I went with my wife and my son and it was very good – it went smoothly, worked perfectly."

Prior to the actual film being screened, *Howl* – a 2011 animation of a small wolf child who longed for the freedom of the forest – was shown, along with the uncut video of Michael Jackson's smash-hit *Thriller*.

John Landis, the director of *An American Werewolf in London*, was featured in an introductory video he had made especially for the occasion.

Mr Grove added: "It's something we are looking at expanding, maybe doing a couple next year. There was a big round of applause at the end so that shows the crowd enjoyed it. We are definitely looking at next year, perhaps over a couple of days."

Satirist Matt will cry in show if he wants to

SATIRIST Matt Forde is coming to Stourbridge Town Hall this autumn.

He will be performing his stand-up show *It's My Political Party (And I'll Cry if I Want To)* on Friday, October 27 at 8pm.

Tickets are on sale via 01384 812812 and online from www.boroughhalls.co.uk



Olivia-Megan Mole, three, from Oldbury meets Bailey the Chow Chow



Mist tackling the HJM Agility Course



Julie Marsden and Ellen Parkes make a fuss of Millie the Akita



Justin Buthlay, five, from Romsley with Biff the Norfolk/Jack Russell cross



Looking this good is thirsty work for Jake



Double prize winner Harley taking on the HJM Agility Course

Pampered pooches perform

CANINE competitors of all breeds battled it out at a park to be named top dog.

And it was such a success the organisers plan to hold an additional event next year.

Dog owners and their furry friends flocked to Tividale Park to show off their talents at the second Paws 4 Thought event on Sunday. And

among the winners was Harley, a springy Labradoodle, who claimed both the Best in Show and Waggiest Tail awards.

It was organised by The Friends of Tividale Park, K9 Search UK and Sandwell Council Parks Team, and Jennie Dhanjal, founder of K9 Search UK, is already looking ahead to next year and has Buffery Park in Dudley in her sights. "All the chari-

ties I spoke to said they did relatively well, better than last year," she said.

"There was dog rescue charities and then there was other charities like Help for Heroes and fostering agency Active Care Solutions.

"We are looking to do it again in Buffery Park next year. We haven't got a date confirmed yet but it will probably be around June or July."

Hundreds of pounds were raised

for the park and various charities. And Ms Dhanjal added: "The turnout was good, much better than last year – there was a couple of hundred I reckon. It was a really good day.

"There was an award for Golden Oldie, for dogs aged eight and over, and a rescue dog won that.

"Her name is Lippy, she is riddled with cancer and has a cleft lip so it was quite emotional. She is around

11 or 12, a Staffordshire Bull Terrier – a gorgeous dog who still does plenty of running about."

Children and parents were catered for with bouncy castles, trade and charity stalls and food and refreshments from 11am until 5pm.

Sandwell Councillor Susan Downing, who represents the Oldbury ward which covers Tividale Park, said: "It was a great success."

SUMMER SAVINGS at RYDALE

MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON AUGUST INSTALLATIONS

WINDOWS, DOORS, CONSERVATORIES, ORANGERIES, PORCHES, FASCIAS & SOFFIT BOARDS



Cleaning Services now available to restore all your uPVC products. Guttering and Driveways cleaning available.



We take security very seriously. Guaranteed high security on ALL products. Full details on request.



No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round.

Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.

Make the RIGHT decision this Summer and give RYDALE a ring... FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060

www.rydalewindows.co.uk | Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS | Open Weekdays: 9am to 5.30pm. Saturday: 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed

IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Picture this, £10k spent to promote MPs' image

I USED to think there were few sights funnier than those bizarre clips they show on televised football where each player walk towards the camera, puts on a stern expression, and then folds his arms. I mean, why do they need to do it? What's wrong with a good old head-and-shoulders picture, if we really need to see what the player looks like at all. We tune in to watch the game, not admire their biceps.

At least that was until I saw the new pictures of our MPs striking similar poses for the House of Commons website. The Commons' authorities spent £10,000 hiring celebrity photographer Chris McAndrew, better known for his pictures of Snoop Dogg and Charlotte Rampling, in an attempt to refresh its stuffy image. And instead came up with what looks like a mob of refugees from an old Kay's catalogue. Now tell me that's not a brilliant use of taxpayer's money.

□□□

DO you ever read something in the news, and wonder if we are all the victim of a huge practical joke?

Take Marie Buchan, the former stripper from Birmingham who seems to have now carved out a rather lucrative career as a serial benefit claimant, raking in a tasty £26,000 a year.

To be honest, I thought the Government had put a stop to all this – I seem to remember something about a "cruel benefit cap" and "plunging 40,000 children into poverty" – but it seems Marie still seems to be doing rather well out of it.

And to put this into context, £26,000 in take-home benefits is the equivalent to a gross salary of £33,000 a year. So I can't help but think there must be a lot of hard-working folk in the Black Country earning considerably less than Marie gets.

Anyhow, Marie has decided that she deserves a little treat, so she did what any struggling single mother-of-eight living on benefits would do, and bought herself a horse. Her splendid 14-hand cob, which she bought in Bilston, will cost something like £3,600 a year to look after.

"I want a horse and I'm going to get it," she says. "I've wanted one for a long, long time – since before I had the kids."

Look, love, I've wanted a 100ft yacht in Antibes for a long time too, but I guess I'm going to have to be patient.

It's probably no great surprise that she is best friends with White Dee off Benefits Street, but it is her justification that it is "no different from buying a car" that really takes the biscuit.

Marie, most people buy a car to go to work in. You should try it some time.

Passchendaele tributes to mark centenary of battle



Prince Charles, seen with his impressive collection of medals at Tyne Cot cemetery



Bill Bray's Legion d'Honneur medal – a timely reminder of a little-known battle on D-Day



A Swiss break for Theresa May, as imagined by journalists working for Private Eye magazine

War of words over Charles's medals

MORE on the battle of the sexes. A reader tells me he regularly greets his wife at the door with: "I'm afraid there's been a terrible accident involving all the things you asked me to do today."

OH, the embarrassment. One national newspaper zoomed in on the impressive chestful of medals worn by the Prince of Wales at last week's Passchendaele commemoration and found they were not all real gongs at all. Charles was wearing an assortment of commemorative medals – alongside service medals – most of which he received for being his mother's son: the Coronation medal, Silver Jubilee medal, Golden Jubilee medal, etc. Notably absent was the Cycling Proficiency badge, so we can only assume he never passed the test. Seriously, if you haven't got a proper medal to wear, don't wear anything.

A FASCINATING and well-reasoned letter in a national paper seems to prove that the average new electric car produces twice as much climate-changing carbon dioxide as a petrol car. But such is the political rush for all-electric transport that warnings like this are drowned out. Twenty years ago, when diesel was being hailed as the saviour of the planet, how many dissenting voices were ignored? With a little more foresight, we wouldn't need hindsight.

AMPUTATIONS, public stonings, legally-enforced rape, child abduction. Some pundits claim The Handmaid's Tale (C4) was the most harrowing TV drama ever. Hardly. Over on More 4, Outlander is about to plumb unspeakable depths of depravity. Flipping ahead with the DVD set, I've never seen anything like it. Outlander is described as brand-new drama. The brand in question is red hot and steaming with

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



human flesh. You ain't seen nothing yet.

A THICK embossed envelope arrives inviting me to "an exclusive seminar in your local area" by a "wealth management" firm. Turns out to be in Leicestershire, 28 miles from my front door, which is not exactly what I understand by "local". If their geography is rubbish, why should I trust their maths?

INCIDENTALLY, I see the attractions at the "wealth management" seminar include coffee and Danish pastries. I fear those may be the most expensive Danish pastries some poor suckers ever eat.

IT has never been easier to get into university than it is now. It has never been easier to get a first; these once-hallowed degrees are now handed out like peppermints. But there is one area of varsity life which is as rigorous and unforgiving as ever – University Challenge (BBC2). This week Southampton University routed Cardiff University by a withering 280-40. Southampton won because its team was better selected, better rehearsed and far better informed than its rivals. Preparation – the ultimate lesson for life.

I WAS pleased to read this week that 97-year-old Bill Bray, a wartime tank driver with the Staffordshire Yeomanry, has been awarded the Legion d'Honneur by the French government for his part in liberating France. He is one of

the last survivors of a little battle which probably saved the Allied landings on D-Day, June 6, 1944, yet is barely known today. German tanks were heading for the crowded invasion beaches where they could have caused mayhem. But they were stopped and destroyed in a well-planned ambush by the Staffordshire Yeomanry. It was a decisive moment on that world-changing day, yet it is barely mentioned in history books and has never appeared in any D-Day movie. Why not? Probably because the Yeomanry was a regiment of part-time Territorials, not a fashionable, famous or well-connected regular unit. When the Regulars come home from war, an officer writes the regimental history. When the Territorials come home from war, they go back to their day jobs and their deeds fade from memory. Bill Bray's medal is a timely reminder of a victory which deserves to be remembered with pride.

ACCORDING to legend, mediaeval priests would argue about how many angels could dance on the head of a pin. Thank goodness religion has moved on. Or has it? The latest controversy troubling the Vatican is whether, when preparing the bread and wine for Holy Communion, it is acceptable to use gluten-free bread. Latest thinking from Rome is that totally gluten-free is forbidden but low-gluten bread is fine. Rejoice. I dare say in heaven a lot of angels are dancing at this news, some of them on pins. A small, mischievous part of me would like to see Father Ted explaining it all to Dougal.

"MR Davis asked if I was going to Switzerland and recommended a lovely village called Dignitas," from Theresa May's diary, as imagined in the current Private Eye.

TALKING POINT



We're not part of the problems in society

IT WAS with some amazement, and a little quiet satisfaction, that I found myself being refused an alcohol purchase some 20 years+ since reaching the legal age.

Sadly the reason for this was not because I looked so young, or even that I had 'had enough'. I was refused because I was shopping with one of my children!

There was a very tempting offer at a local convenience store on one of my favourite tipplers so I wandered along.

In the absence of trolleys, my young daughter helped me carry the wares. At the till, I was asked for her ID. Given that she is a schoolgirl quite clearly below the legal age to drink I pointed out, needlessly, that I was buying the alcohol. Only to be told that because she had 'touched' the bottles, she needed to show her ID.

Frustratedly offering to pay just for the bottles I had touched made no difference. So I stropped out of the shop and spend my hard-earned elsewhere.

But what was gained from denying this busy working mother a little treat at the weekend? I am clearly not going to cause a nuisance drinking at the park or mayhem in town centres after a drunken binge – and neither is my daughter!

Ordinary folk like me are not part of society's problems but we are soft targets. It is easier to tick a box by challenging a mundane mother like myself than actual nuisance drinkers. Would that young girl assistant have been quick to refuse a gang of youths on their way to a party?

It is a similar scenario with speeders. Travelling down the Orbital Route at Cannock during the daytime you are sure to come across the 'safety camera' van looking to snare a stay-at-home mother or elderly driver daring to creep over the limit. They are sure to pay their fines or take a 'humble pie' speed awareness course – easy money.

But anyone who has travelled that route in the evening will no doubt have been almost taken out by one of the boy racers who treat the road like Silverstone. Where is the 'safety camera' then?

Or how about the fly-tippers who are the scourge of our countryside? How many of these end up in the dock? Not enough. But too often we find the poor old dear who paid someone to take away their rubbish paying a fine. That's because it is easier to track them down from the rubbish than really invest time in snaring the thoughtless fly-tippers.

So underage binge drinkers, boy racers and fly-tippers go largely under the radar while working mums are denied a tippie and slightly speedy pensioners are hauled over the coals. Isn't it time we stopped simply hitting the soft targets?

DIANE DAVIES

DO YOU HAVE A BLOCK PAVING OR CONCRETE IMPRINT DRIVE?

- WEEDS GROWING THROUGH?
- CRACKS APPEARING?
- UNUSUALLY SLIPPERY WHEN WET?
- COLOUR FADING?
- WHITE & GREEN ALGAE SPOTS?
- TARMAC DRIVEWAYS RE-COLOURED AND SEALED



BEFORE

AFTER

AT BTF CLEANING WE SPECIALISE IN CLEANING, REPAIRING, RECOLOURING & SEALING DRIVEWAYS & PATIOS.

Our expert knowledge and experience brings back to life the most dull & worn of driveways & patios. We also specialise in cleaning all uPVC conservatories, gutters, fascias & soffits.

BTF
CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED

www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk

Narrow Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands. B62 9ND

Tel/Fax No: 01384 568345

C&T
Doors & Windows Ltd
Tel: 01902 842706 / 07759 536818
www.candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk
ALL AREAS COVERED
Email: enquiries@candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk

DOORS **COMPOSITE DOORS AVAILABLE**

Un glazed/ Glazed from £349.00 fully fitted. New Improved 10 point locking system fully reinforced. Many more designs available.

EDWARDIAN CONSERVATORY 3 MTR x 3 MTR From £4500
Bi-Fold Doors From £999
French Patio Doors From £649

REPLACING YOUR WINDOWS & DOORS WILL NOT COST THE EARTH ...

Direct manufacturers of quality UPVC Windows, Doors & Patios

Est 1996



5 WINDOWS FOR £775
FULLY GLAZED

2ft x 5ft £98	3ft x 5ft £121	4ft x 5ft £141	4ft x 5ft £174	3ft x 6ft £141
------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU PAY
No hidden charges

Choice of any 10 different style doors from only £250



ADVANCE WINDOW
systems Ltd

Tel/Fax: 0121 565 0033 / 07752 921 699 A Rated Windows
Unit 12A Pope Street, Smethwick B66 2JP

History repeated over police numbers

A FEW weeks ago, I wrote about the rise in crime where one side stated crime was rising but the other side said no, it wasn't.

More recently, the headline news again says crime is at its worst since the mid-1980s.

In the 1970s, police resources were at their lowest, morale at its lowest, and officers were leaving in their droves, and then the government decided they had to recruit officers and within this, they also implemented a Royal Commission and as a result Edmund-Davies made recommendations

which were implemented in full. Below is a part of the reasoning why the Edmund-Davies commission was implemented.

"Following very severe problems with the recruitment and retention of police officers in England and Wales because of chronically low pay, which had by then fallen far behind the pay for comparable occupations, in August 1977 Edmund-Davies was appointed by Labour Home Secretary Merlyn Rees MP to chair a commission of inquiry into the negotiating machinery for police pay and conditions. His terms of

reference were enlarged in December 1977 to include the levels of pay. His report was published in July 1978 and recommended a substantial increase in pay for police officers - of the order of 45 per cent. His recommendations were implemented in full in 1979."

Following 10 years of this implementation it was squashed in the early 1990s and the rest is now history, this government is again doing a repeat of history and our police are vastly undermanned and gravely underpaid.

P LOWE
Brierley Hill

Financial planning in tatters

HOW can this or any other government in power change such a life-changing entitlement as the state pension age, and more importantly the ending of the additional voluntary contributions element of it?

I entered into what I believed to be a contract with the state to pay National Insurance contributions from the age of 16 years for 35 years or until I reached the amount that entitled me to draw the pension at 65.

As I will reach that level in eight years' time the following 19 years worth of NI contributions will not be going into my additional contributions, as was the case in 1992 when I started paying into the NI contract.

So my financial planning has gone down the pan, as my personal state pension will not be any more than the upper limit, currently £159.55pw. How can this be legal, and why aren't the general public up in arms demanding enquiries?

G MORRIS
Oldbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Austerity is really about a class war

MR N PATTERSON rightly identified the Blair government for the current deficit but two Conservative governments later and we have witnessed the doubling of the deficit since a Labour majority (Letters, August 3).

The principle of austerity has been damned by the IMF and no country in the history has ever reduced the deficit by the means Conservatives intend to. Let's be clear, austerity is class war. It strips the poorest of essential services whilst transnational corporations dodge tax despite a bargain corporation tax rate compared to the rest of Europe's. The post-World War era Mr N Patterson referred to was eased by the Marshall Plan levied by the United States on the condition of investment upon the class capable of regenerating the economy, the working class.

S MAHMOOD
Stourbridge

MPs think only of their own career

IT was, I believe, Winston Churchill who, when addressing parliament, said: "I see the opposition on the benches in front of me, my enemies however are behind me."

I imagine that our embattled Prime Minister Theresa May is now fully cognisant of what the great man was referring to.

What on earth is wrong with our MPs? Are they hellbent on bringing down their own government?

What can possibly be the hidden agenda? Are all of Theresa May's Cabinet jousting for the position of prime minister? It's about time they put their party, and their country, first!

But sadly, the days of when people went into politics to serve their country are long gone.

Nowadays, all they think about is their own gratification, and if pursuing that end is harming the country, tough luck!

B PARSONS
Coseley

Plumb Serve

Plumbing & Heating SPECIALISTS

Exchange your Combi Boiler for an Ideal Vogue Boiler with a 10 year warranty and receive the following-

- Free Wireless Thermostat
- Free First Service
- Free Boilermag Filter!!!!

◀ Under Floor Heating

◀ LPG Work

◀ Taps, Toilets, Baths & Waste

◀ Full Bathroom/En Suites Installed

◀ Radiators Fitted/Removed

◀ Cookers & Fires, Installed & Serviced

◀ Boiler & Full Central Heating Systems

◀ Installed and Serviced

◀ Landlord Safety Checks

24hr call out Call us on
01384 621765 / 07513094763

Card payments accepted
Powered by Gas Serve (West Midlands LTD)

Property Serve

For all your Property Needs!
All qualified and experienced tradesmen

➡ Full/Partial Property

➡ Refurbishments

➡ Plastering

➡ Tiling

➡ Bathroom and Kitchens

➡ Loft Ladders/Floor Boarding

➡ Property Alterations

➡ Underfloor Heating

➡ Electricians

➡ Sound Proofing

Fully Insured
All Work Guaranteed

Call now for details on Tax exempt disabled modifications inc. Wet Rooms and Widened Access

01384 621765
07513 094763

24 hour call out powered by
Gas Serve (West Midlands) Ltd
www.gasservewestmidlands.co.uk
Card Payments Accepted

Starkey Electrical Ltd

Manor House, Manor Lane, Halesowen Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Electricians
email: info@starkeyelectrical.co.uk www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk

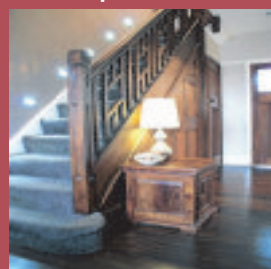
0121 423 3883



- For all your electrical needs in your home, garden, driveway or office/retail premises
- Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated
- Competitive prices/ FREE quotations

- Energy saving LED Lighting
- Fuseboard replacements
- Rewiring
- Landlord Certification
- General electrical maintenance

- Supply/install of electric roller shutter garage doors
- Electric heating systems
- Inspection & testing
- Shower upgrades
- CCTV & intruder alarms



Follow us on

Starkey Electrical Ltd - Your local, energy efficient electrician



INTERNET PRICES IN STORE



5 PIECE SET
VANITY UNIT,
SINK, TOILET
& SOFT CLOSE
SEAT, TOILET
UNIT
£199.00



FULL BATHROOM
SUITE
BASIN
BATH
TOILET & SOFT
CLOSE SEAT
£199.00

INSTALLATION OFFERS

FREE
TILES
ON ALL FULLY
INSTALLED
KITCHENS &
BATHROOMS*

HURRY!
SEPTEMBER
INSTALLATION
DATES STILL
AVAILABLE*

REPLACEMENT
KITCHEN
DOORS
FROM
£10.00*

LESS ABLED
BATH TO
SHOWER
CONVERSIONS

LARGE
SELECTION
OF COMFORT
HEIGHT WC'S

- Over 50 displays in store • Large showroom • Free parking • Free no obligation survey
- Long established business • Quality installers *Terms and conditions apply - see in store for details

interia
KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

POTTERS LANE, WEDNESBURY,
REAR OF MECCA BINGO, WS10 7LH

Call now for your **FREE** survey

0121 505 1132

www.interiadesigns.co.uk

Film looks to solve mystery of Bella



Hagley Woods still holds the answers to how Bella died



The documentary delves into who was behind mystery graffiti

A VICTIM of witchcraft? A Nazi spy? Or a girl simply walking across the fields to save wear and tear on her shoes?

They are all theories which have been put forward throughout the decades in a bid to solve the mystery of Who Put Bella in the Wych-Elm? that has left everyone flummoxed for generations.

But in this new documentary, of that very title, they are fleshed out more than ever before. The chill-

ing tale of the skeleton found by children in a tree in Hagley Woods in 1943 has all the hallmarks of a horror-fiction classic.

So it is no surprise that the true story, along with its varying explanations ranging from the simple to the bizarre, has gripped the town of Stourbridge ever since.

This hour-long film captures the eerie terror of the incident from the outset as it opens to the

creepy jingles of a child's mobile and never lets up in tension.

It immediately gives the victim a sense of added vulnerability – and perhaps innocence – which makes her brutal killing ever the more startling.

The audience, present at its first screening at Stourbridge Town Hall on Friday, was always kept on the edge of their seat with swift visual changes that added to the haunting nature of its story.

They included stills of authentic case documents, graphic photographs of the remains, believable recreations of the possible scenarios which could have led to the death, interviews with experts and present-day footage from the scene and its surroundings.

Jangling

While sharp audible cues keep the nerves jangling.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the production is how thoroughly researched every part of the mystery has been carried out by the creators.

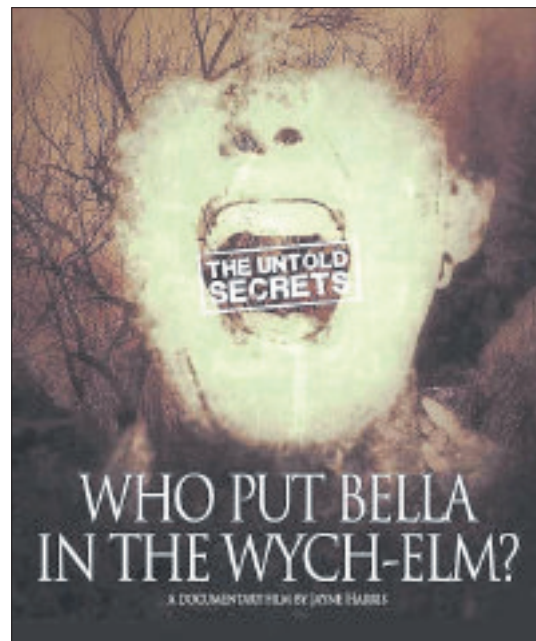
Each element is carefully dissected – including the origins of the graffiti which started appearing around Stourbridge afterwards and the identity of the victim herself, which is heavily focused upon throughout.

It even details how the Express

Film screening review by Carl Jackson



Filmmaker Jayne Harris is behind the new Bella documentary



Who Put Bella in the Wych-Elm? was screened for the first time on Friday

& Star played a part in re-igniting the case after it had seemingly gone cold.

In expert fashion the film outlines each of the major theories behind Bella's death – but then just as you think you know 'who dunnit', to use the classic mystery cliché, it provides compelling new evidence which dismisses some of the arguments altogether.

Meanwhile, other suspicions are left open with new questions raised from the documentary.

The state of the case of today is sure to leave most baffled.

Filmmaker Jayne Harris, for whom this is her first major production, narrates throughout the documentary.

Ahead of the documentary's unveiling she said she merely wanted

to make a 10-minute YouTube film out of 'personal interest' in the story.

Even when the project snowballed into its final form she admitted thinking only 15 to 20 people would come to see it.

Judging by the 400-plus crowd who packed out Stourbridge Town Hall and applauded enthusiastically at the end, public interest in the mystery of 'Who Put Bella in the Wych-Elm?' is still as fervent as ever more than half a century on.

The film will be screened again at the venue on October 31 for Halloween and then will be available to view on Amazon Prime afterwards or purchase on DVD from www.hdparanormal.com

A family run business with majority of work coming from recommendations

“WE OFFER QUALITY UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS AT QUALITY PRICES”

Why pay more?
Deal direct with the owners, no salesmen, and see the difference
Doors from £450
Composite Doors from £630
Conservatories from £4500

Specialists in Door, Window, Porch and Conservatory Installations
Composite Doors from £630
Wide choice of colours available
Misty units replaced
WE OFFER GREAT DEALS ON ALL UPVC PRODUCTS
Quality products at quality prices
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Faulty door locks and window hinges replaced

WE WILL BEAT ANY QUOTE

Hawthorn Windows
Unit 1, Shenstone Trading Estate, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3XB
Tel: 0121 559 6320
www.hawthorn-windows.co.uk

STOP PAIN...

..With our specialist in Acupuncture, Acupressure, Cupping & Ear Candle

We can help if you

- Suffer with pains in neck, shoulder, elbow, lower back & knee
- Suffer with pain or arthritis, trapped nervous, soft tissue injury & sciatica
- Suffer with pain from swollen joints after operations such as hip replacement and knee replacement
- Suffer with overweight

We can also help

- Infertile couples to get pregnant with a high success rate through acupuncture and herbs
- Infertile couples improving egg quality and sperm count prior to IVF treatment

Or any symptoms you are not sure of, visit us for a confidential consultation or telephone for an appointment

UK Registered 20 Years Experience

Open 10.30 - 5.30 Monday - Saturday

10B Peckingham Street, Halesowen
0121 585 9393

Newcomer welcomed into club

Kingswinford TG

THE July meeting began on a cheerful note as chairman Enid Fennell welcomed a new member.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed and matters arising from them dealt with. Tickets for the Federation Luncheon were distributed and names for the autumn celebration were confirmed. The forthcoming activities of the various sub-sections were announced. In the case of the Luncheon Club they extend as far as 2018.

Pauline and Sue accepted the invitation to the Mayor's 'At Home'.

Joyce Major gave a brief account of the National Annual General meeting in Sheffield, saying how much she had enjoyed it and reminded members they would be able to read all about it in the next edition of Townswoman.

The speaker for the evening was John Butterworth who talked about the intrepid 'Nurse Who Changed Guinea'. It was a fascinating story. He was thanked by Joyce Major.

Raffle prizes were won by Doreen Comley and Kath Turner.

The next meeting will be on August 14 in the Community Centre in High Street. Linda Hickman will present a flower arranging demonstration.

Non-members are invited to come along for a 7.30pm start for what is expected to be a lively, enjoyable evening.

Blue the colour for summer tea party

Wollaston E TWG

Foreigner's view of Black Country

Kingswinford Ladies Social Circle

THE Ladies met on a beautiful July evening at The Royal British Legion, Kingswinford.

Chairman Sheila Evans welcomed everyone including speaker Ned Williams, a well-known personality in the area.

Business matters were read, approved and signed.

Details of the trip on September 28 were finalised. A reminder that the next meeting will be the Harvest Supper on September 7 and members are to bring cutlery as well as produce to be sold at the auction.

Mr Williams labelled his talk "A foreigner's view of the Black Country" - he being the foreigner. Ned came from London to become a student at Dudley Teacher Training College.

He embraced and developed his love of the area by travelling by bus where he discovered strangers actually talked to each other, unknown in London.

He travelled around on his motorbike and realised each small town or village had its own little groups. He worked for 30 years as a lecturer and helped to form The Black Country Society in 1967.

Over the years he has written many books about local towns, cinemas and chapels. He illustrated his talk with a variety of pictures, to the delight of a Black Country audience.

Josie Smith, also a foreigner from Yorkshire, gave the vote of thanks for an interesting and enlightening talk. Two ladies won raffle prizes.

THE July meeting incorporated the guild's summer tea party.

The chosen theme was the Queen's Sapphire Jubilee and it was suggested that members could wear blue.

Chairman Julie Willetts welcomed everyone and a toast was raised to The Queen.

Suggestion slips were left on the tables for members to put forward ideas on future activities or outings.

There was another national day to be observed - namely Teddy Bear Day - with members asked to bring along their 'cuddlies'.

There was a loaded table of various sizes and coloured teddies - some clothed, a number 'bare'. Ann Powell won the prize for the most appealing.

A very enjoyable tea was provided by the committee. As well as a glass of Pimm's, tea and coffee were kindly served by Jean Brooks, Barbara Homer and Maureen Green.

The next outing is a visit to Haden Hill House on September 20 and there are still a few places left. A skittles evening, with fish and chip supper, is planned for October 18.

Tour of India is talk subject

CHAIRMAN Chris Holton welcomed 26 members and two guests to the July meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

She added knitted squares were still being accepted and would be made into blankets of various sizes for the Fistula Society.

Treasurer Jill Atwood gave an up to date financial report. Marlene O'Hanlon re-

Grange (E) Guild

minded members that items for shoe boxes could still be accepted for Project Gambia.

Speaker for the evening, Jon Wilding held everyone's attention with his very interesting talk about the wonderful time he and his wife Sue had touring India with friends.

HagleyKitchens

Beautiful Kitchens, Bathrooms and Bedrooms, designed with imagination and fitted with care



"A really handsome Kitchen..."

...beautiful Bosch appliances and a super 'Boiling-water Tap' completed on time without any problems at all" **Pauline Burgess, Droitwich**

"Hagley Kitchens took care of everything in our fantastically designed modern kitchen... ..Graham and his team made everything simple." **Pam & Steve Hughes, Rowley Regis**

"Graham gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company." **Danni & Martin Walters, Hasbury**



"Hagley Kitchens created the kitchen we have always dreamed of, and his team completed the installation and tiling to a perfect finish... Thank You." **Wayne & Julie, Wordsley**

"Nothing was too much trouble" **Doreen Coley - Hayley Green**

Guaranteed unbeatable on price

Call Graham Edmonds for your FREE, no obligation new Hagley Kitchen's design
07776 207596
or 0121 602 3031

www.HagleyKitchens.co.uk

INSTALLATION • TILING • GAS • ELECTRIC • PLUMBING • BUILDING

HASBURY WINDOWS Ltd.

QUALITY | VALUE | SERVICE

Sizzling SUMMER SPECIALS

- Your NEW windows will sparkle this Summer
- It's the Best Time of Year to Fit New Windows!

INLITEN FRONT DOOR

in WHITE
From Only

£550

...Including fitting!



INLITEN BACK DOOR

in WHITE
From Only

£490

...Including fitting!



6 FLAT WINDOWS & 2 DOORS

From Only

£2999

...Including fitting AND VAT!

Full Window Wizard Services Available



- Misted Units Replaced
- Broken Hinges
- Door Adjustment
- New Locks Installed

Call for further details
0121 421 7001

✓ **FASCIAS** ✓ **SOFFITS** ✓ **GUTTERING**

- Your local well established business offering top quality products and service
- No payment until completion
- Call us now for a great deal on your new windows and doors
- Visit our showroom
- Deal direct with the owner

It **HAS** to be **HASBURY**



HASBURY WINDOWS Ltd.

QUALITY | VALUE | SERVICE

SHOWROOM OPEN:

Mon-Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm

Sat - 10.00am - 1.00pm

PHONELINES OPEN: 9.00am - 9.00pm

9 Halesowen Road, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 9AA
Telephone: **0121 421 7001** • **0121 421 2104**

TRADE ENQUIRES WELCOME

FENSA
Registered 30179

"We will Beat ANY Genuine Written Quote"



Knife-wielding ex threatened to kill woman in her bedroom

A 'FRUSTRATED' man who terrified his ex-girlfriend when he stormed into her home threatening to kill her has been jailed for 20 months.

Knife-wielding Mohammed Imran burst into his former partner's bedroom while she lay sleeping next to her new boyfriend.

The 41-year-old appeared before recorder Mr Peter Coke for sentence, who told Imran the 20-minute tirade at the Oldbury home could have led to 'disastrous consequences'.

Borough tops the class for adult learning

ADULT learners have given Dudley Council a glowing end of term report, according to the results of a survey.

Earlier this year 500 people who were enrolled on a Dudley Council adult learners' course were asked to fill in a short survey to share their experiences about adult learning.

The survey asked people to comment on teaching, how they were treated by staff and whether the course met their expectations.

It showed 98 per cent of people in the town were happy with the adult education they had received, ranking Dudley as the top authority for adult learning across the region.

Councillor Ian Kettle, cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: "We've got a great team of staff."

People can find out more by calling 01384 818143 or by going to www.dudley.gov.uk/adultlearning

Imran went into the woman's bedroom after grabbing a knife with a five-to-six-inch blade from the kitchen, which woke the pair at around 4am on March 28, prosecutor Mr Ian Ball said.

He declared he was going to prison and would kill one of them, claiming 'a few more years won't make a difference', added Mr Ball.

Concerned about her children, the woman attempted to flee but was pushed back on the bed by Imran, who shouted 'don't leave or I will put the knife in you'. Her boyfriend confronted Imran, who then brandished the blade towards him and blocked the doorway.

Imran then sliced his ex-partner's hand with the blade as she repeatedly asked to be let free, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard on Thursday. The defendant, who must pay a victim surcharge, eventually dropped the knife when police arrived.

Defence barrister Mr Andrew Molloy said Imran, who had 27 convictions, is convinced he is the father of some of his ex-partner's children despite her claims he is not. He was 'frustrated' at not being able to see one of the youngest, the barrister added.

Imran, of Barking, Essex, admitted two counts of making threats to kill and affray. He was also given a five-year restraining order.

Festival ends on high with street party



Sedgley Ukelele Strummers John Taylor, Keith Whitehead and Andrew Reynolds

ORGANISERS of the first Coseley Black Country Day event hailed it a roaring success, and a fitting way to end this year's festival celebrations.

The Black Country Festival has brought entertainment to the region throughout July and chairman Steve Edwards says it has helped unite the community.

The event in Coseley, which acted as the closing ceremony for the festival, saw an estimated 2,000 people pass through the celebrations between 1pm and 5pm on July 31, with plenty to do for locals despite the gloom weather that loomed later on.

Securing Mr Edwards and his committee team, including Coseley East councillor Melvyn Mottram, had been keen to add Coseley to the bill for a number of years. And after finally securing the event, which was on Castle Street in Roseville, the chairman was 'over the moon' at the outcome.

He said: "We were really happy. It was a great turnout. There were loads of kids there and it brought the community together."

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Dave Tyler officially opened the celebrations. They began on July 1 with the Halesowen Carnival and it has been popular throughout.

Mr Edwards said of the month: "I think we can call it the best ever. There were more people at the Dudley event, more at the Halesowen and Stourbridge carnivals."

Respiratory treatment is trial subject

THE West Midlands Ambulance Service has joined the University of Sheffield to launch a trial to improve care for patients with breathing problems.

The trial is looking at patients who suffer from life-threatening acute respiratory failure.

The condition often results in patients spending long periods of time in hospital, frequently in intensive care.

It happens when heart or lung disease suddenly develops or worsens and leads to patients being unable to maintain oxygen levels in the blood.

Patients with conditions such as COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and particularly serious cases of pneumonia are often victims, where they struggle to breathe.

Ambulance staff currently provide oxygen delivered at normal pressure through a loose fitting mask. Under the trial, ambulance crews will use a CPAP device (continuous positive airway pressure). It involves delivering oxygen under increased pressure through a close-fitting facemask effectively forcing oxygen into the lungs.

This allows the oxygen to be taken into the bloodstream and also allows carbon dioxide to be released.

WMAS lead research paramedic, Andy Rosser, said: "We know that CPAP is used effectively in hospitals. With CPAP, the patient would start to receive treatment sooner."

Peaky Blinders set to launch sharp banger

A BLACK COUNTRY brewery and bar is unveiling its new Peaky Blinder sausage at its summer festival.

Sadler's is holding its sausage and cider festival at its brewhouse and bar on the Conyers Trading Estate, in Station Drive, Lye.

It starts today, Thursday, and will be running until Saturday.

It will run from midday each day.

MNA DIGITAL

STAND OUT FROM YOUR RIVALS

Advertise your business on the **NEW LOOK** Express & Star website
www.expressandstar.com

To find out how you can benefit call MNA Digital on 01902 319730



Model: I feared for my life, second by second

A BRITISH model allegedly kidnapped in Milan and detained for six days while her captor tried to auction her online, has spoken of her constant despair.

She said: "I feared for my life, second by second, minute by minute, hour by hour."

A Polish man living in Tivdale is at the centre of the investigation and has been arrested on suspicion of kidnap.

The 20-year-old woman, named in reports as Chloe Ayling, was attacked on July 11 by two men as she attended an arranged photo shoot.

Drugged

Ms Ayling is believed to have been drugged and transported in a bag to Borgial, an isolated village near Turin, before being released on July 17, Italian police said.

Ms Ayling arrived back at her home in Coulsdon, south London, on Sunday, and according to reports, she said: "I've been through a terrifying experience."

"I am incredibly grateful to the Italian and UK authorities for all they have done to secure my safe release."

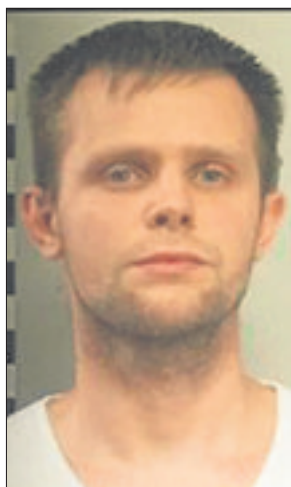
Lukasz Pawel Herba, who lives in Tivdale, near Oldbury, was arrested on July 18 on suspicion of kidnap and extortion, state police said.

Officials have released a mugshot of the 30-year-old suspect.

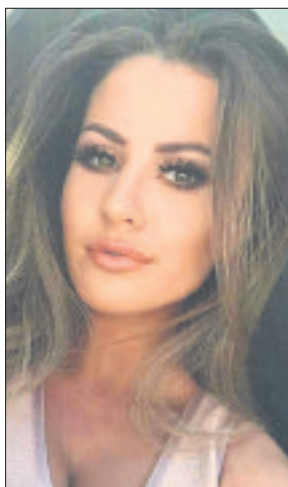
The National Crime Agency (NCA) said it has been assisting with the investigation.

A spokesman said: "The NCA and the East Midlands Special Operations Unit (Emsou) have been working closely with the Italian authorities since the kidnap was reported."

"NCA officers in Italy and special-



Suspect Lukasz Pawel Herba



Model Chloe Ayling from London

ists from our anti-kidnap and extortion unit are also providing support to the Polizia di Stato as part of the ongoing investigation.

"A house in the Oldbury area linked to Lukasz Pawel Herba was searched on July 18 by Emsou officers with assistance from West Midlands Police. Computer equipment seized is being forensically examined."

It is alleged the men tried to sell Ms Ayling online for more than £230,000 and demanded the model's agent pay to secure her safe release.

She was kept handcuffed to furniture but was freed after six days

and taken to the British consulate in Milan, despite the ransom not being paid, police said.

It has been reported the captor demanded £50,000 upon her release and threatened to kill her if she told police about the incident.

Mercenary

Milan police officer Lorenzo Bucossi told reporters the group the suspect was allegedly working for offered 'mercenary services' on the dark web.

Italian police said they are working with officials in Britain and Poland as they continue to investigate.

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

YOUR CHOICE...FOR A BETTER BATHROOM

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR £3950

90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray
15 SQM Wall Tiles
Tiled Floor
Replacement Shower
New Basin & WC

DISABLED SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in and out of your bath? We will remove the bath and fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle and tile inside, supply a new replacement shower, a folding seat and grab rail

ALL FOR ONLY £2150

We do the lot in 5 days

Extra discount for our retired & disabled customers

We offer a free no obligation home visit and on the spot price within 48 hrs of your call

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre,
Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH
01384 287222

Showroom also at
39 Lichfield Road, Wednesfield,
Wolverhampton WV11 1TW **01902 861908**
SHOWROOMS OPEN 9am-5pm 6 Days a Week

VAT FREE in Qualifying Cases



The Chronicle

We are presently recruiting in your area.
We need **reliable people** to deliver
the Chronicle newspaper, magazines
and advertising leaflets



Ring
01902 319990
Or email
marie.darling@expressandstar.co.uk

If you are over 13 years of age and
would like the opportunity to earn some
extra money contact us with:

Your Name
Your Date of Birth
Your Address & Telephone Number

RYDALE CLEANING SERVICES

UPVC CLEANING SPECIALISTS

UPVC Conservatory interior & exterior valet • UPVC Windows/Doors professionally cleaned UPVC Cladding cleaned • Car ports cleaned • UPVC Fascia & soffit boards cleaned UPVC Porches cleaned • Blocked guttering cleared • External guttering cleaned
Block paving & driveway / slabs cleaned • Caravan and Mobile Home Cleaning • Solar Panel Cleaning • Building Work Clean



Head Office: Rydale House, Long Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 9LS.

FREEPHONE: 0800 917 6060
www.rydalecleaningservices.co.uk

A member of the Rydale Group

Disgraced ex-councillor admits taking indecent images of boys

A DISGRACED ex-councillor stripped of his role could be locked up after confessing he took indecent snaps of two boys.

Former Labour member Derrick Hemingsley, who previously represented Wordsley, admitted to his offending despite initially denying he had broken the law. He strolled into the dock at Wolverhampton Crown Court before entering guilty pleas to two counts of taking indecent photographs of children.

Search family histories and find out past

GET ready for a fun day to help youngsters find out more about who they are and where they come from.

The free session runs from 10.30am to 3.30pm on Thursday, August 24.

There will be a host of free activities, while refreshments will also be available without charge.

Youngsters will be able to trace their ancestors and complete a family tree, which they can take home with them.

There will also be word searches and colouring and craft activities for youngsters.

Councillor Peter Miller, cabinet member responsible for archives, said: "We are delighted to be able to put on these free sessions at our excellent archives."

For further information, pop into the Dudley Council-owned site on Tipton Road, or call the archives on 01384 812770.

Sitting on Friday, Judge Simon Ward revealed Hemingsley did accept he was guilty of the crimes but added: "[He] doesn't accept that he considered the images to be indecent."

The Crown Prosecution Service now has two weeks to review the 57-year-old's basis of plea, with a provisional sentencing date set for September 7.

Suspension

Hemingsley, of Penzer Street, Kingswinford, was put on 'immediate administrative suspension' by the Labour party pending the outcome of a police probe into his offending in 2015.

The former Friends of Wordsley Park chairman, who must now sign the sex offenders register, then denied any wrongdoing at Wolverhampton Crown Court six months ago.

Hemingsley represented Wordsley until last April when Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council stripped him of his title after he failed to attend council meetings for six months.

Hemingsley, who committed the offences between September 1, 2014, and December 31, 2015, was released on conditional bail and is prohibited from having contact with under-18s.

The indecent images were judged 'category C' - prosecutor Mr Howard Searle told the Crown Court.

THEATRE HOPES FOR CLUB DASHED



Developers hoped the former Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill could be a theatre

HOPES a notorious former nightclub could be transformed into a theatre have been dashed after planning bosses threw out an application.

Developers said Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill, the scene of a shooting in 2014, could be a new 'hippodrome'. But officers at Dudley Council said the scheme was not suitable, and councillors refused a 'change of use application' last week.

The listed building in Dudley Road has been empty since its closure in 2014. Council documents on the plan state: "The highways engineer expressed severe concerns relating to the lack of both on and off-street parking."

"But the principle of development cannot be supported as the scheme is contrary to the Development Plan and the proposal would not result in the creation of a sustainable form of development - thereby failing to improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area."

One objection was received raising concerns over parking at the site.

Councillor Zafar Islam, who represents the Brierley Hill ward, said: "There have been a number of parking concerns around the area for some years now as the side streets were also used as rat runs."

"It has certainly quietened down since the closure of Pulse," Councillor Islam added. "I don't think that many residents miss that."

The refusal for change of use of the premises was granted on July 31.

Have Whale of a time at ale festival

DUDLEY-BORN horror film director James Whale will feature on the logo and glasses for the town's annual winter ales fair.

Organised by the Campaign for Real Ale Dudley and South Staffordshire branch, it has chosen to mark the 60th anniversary of Whale's death.

James Whale, who was born in 1889, sprang to fame when he directed, in the 1930s, the original Frankenstein film, its sequel Bride of Frankenstein and box office hit The Invisible Man.

The 32nd Dudley Winter Ales Fair will be held in Dudley Town Hall from November 23 to 25.

Woodseton-based brewer Holden's will be the main sponsor for the real ale festival, but Camra is keen to hear from other brewers.

They also wish to hear from other businesses interested in getting involved.

It is also looking for pubs, clubs and off-licences to advertise in the festival programme.

The next winter ales fair meeting will be held in the Park Inn, Woodseton, on Monday at 8pm.

All branch members interested in getting involved with the organisation or volunteering to help with the set up, taking down, manning the bar and many other roles, are invited to attend the meeting.

Rundown shops are to be bulldozed in plan

A RUNDOWN row of shops is set to be bulldozed to make way for flats.

The shops are part of a three-storey block on Beech Road, Kingswinford, which also includes flats.

Dudley Council wants to flatten the derelict building and build a modern development. The plan has been recommended for approval by officers, with a final decision on Tuesday.

Star Reader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Return coach travel from Dudley

Choose from a selection of shows

42nd Street, Aladdin, Annie, An American in Paris, Dreamgirls, Les Misérables, Mamma Mia!, Matilda, Motown, The Phantom of the Opera, School of Rock, Stomp, The Lion King, Wicked and more...

Not all shows are available on all breaks. Please call for details.

Saturday Night London Theatre

Selected Saturday departures until April 2018

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ A ticket for a Saturday evening performance of a TOP West End Show from our fabulous selection
- ✓ Free time in London

2 days, by coach from
£159.95pp

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com/GGU271 Quote Code: GGU271

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

NOW INCLUDING GREAT NEW WEST END SHOWS TO CHOOSE FROM

42nd STREET

42nd STREET

London Theatre Weekend with Evening Meal

Selected Saturday departures until April 2018

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with 3-course evening meal and full English breakfast
- ✓ A show ticket for a Saturday matinee performance of a TOP West End Show from our fabulous selection
- ✓ Free time in London

2 days, by coach from
£169.95pp

View product online at www.omega-holidays.com/ACW244 Quote Code: ACW244

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call:

01902 902165

Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782

OPENING TIMES:
MON-FRI 8.30-19.00
SAT 8.30-16.00
SUN 10.00-16.00



Brilliant breaks on your doorstep

DON'T FORGET YOUR BUCKET AND SPADE

Provided by **BreakFree Holidays**

HOLIDAYS from £10 pp*

Starts Thursday, August 10

Express & Star

www.expressandstar.com/tenpoundholidays

*Prices are based on a minimum of four people (fewer than four can stay from a minimum price of £40, depending on date of break). Online booking fee of £3 applies as well as service and optional entertainment charges. Not all parks are available on all dates. Token/password collect promotion.



BCHG's Adrian Eggington, left, tenant Matthew Howells, Mike Wood

Mike Wood opens up new supported housing complex

By Luke Bartlett

A NEW housing complex designed to accommodate residents with physical and learning disabilities has been opened.

Residents from the four purpose-built properties in Wilson Road, Brierly Hill, met with MP Mike Wood, as he joined guests to launch the supported living complex. The MP had a guided tour of the facilities and joined in the planting of a tree in the garden. Black Country Housing Group's

chief executive Amanda Tomlinson said: "I would like to thank Mr Wood for attending the launch of our new bungalows and his kind words, as well as helping the residents with the tree planting."

Black Country Housing Group, the firm behind the new complex, worked closely with Dudley Council to meet the needs of individuals standing to benefit from supported

living services. Mr Wood said: "The bungalows are already making a huge difference for people with physical and learning disabilities."

The new site aims to improve on the successes of a similar scheme at nearby Whiteoplayers Close which opened three years ago.

Tina Hanson-Jones, BCHG's supported living manager, said: "We are extremely excited to be opening this new supported living facility."

Mayor's action plan¹³ to tackle congestion

WEST Midlands Mayor Andy Street has urged local authorities to improve the way they manage roadworks in a bid to ease congestion across the region.

He hit out at a 'lack of co-ordination' over roadworks schemes that at times lead to several taking place at once.

Mr Street, who has launched an action plan aimed at tackling congestion on key regional roads, said: "It is no secret we have a major issue with congestion in the West Midlands, a situation brought into even sharper focus when we have major infrastructure repairs or enhancement which require roads and junctions to be closed."

"Clearly, the long-term approach has to involve moving people out of cars and this will require a revolution in investment in rail, buses, trams and cycling. But this will take many years. The number one point of frustration tends to be a lack of co-ordination."

Heatwave is the catalyst for increase in Next sales

By Thom Kennedy

AN early summer heatwave has provided a timely boost for fashion giant Next.

The company says it saw an 11.4 per cent surge in Directory sales that helped offset another steep fall across its high street stores.

Next – which has both a clothing and a homeware outlet at Merry Hill and a shop at Oldbury Green Retail Park – said the warmer weather in May and June, together with an overhaul of its product ranges and online offering, saw total full-price sales rise by a better-than-expected 0.7 per cent in its second quarter to July 29.

It is a welcome piece of good news for a fashion range that has stumbled slightly in recent months.

The figures are a marked improvement on the three per cent drop seen in the previous three months and came despite a 7.4 per cent drop in sales across its high street shops.

The group, which also has several stores across the wider West Midlands, said: "We believe there has been some improvement in our product ranges and our online functionality during this period."

"However, we believe most of the increase in full price sales is due to the much warmer weather and, to a lesser degree, lower markdown sales in the end-of-season sale."

But the group stuck by its guidance for full-year profits to fall by between 6.4 per cent and 13.9 per cent to £680 million and £740m, although it slightly improved its sales outlook. The bounce-back meant Next enjoyed its first full-price sales rise for a year, with a monthly breakdown showing sales lifting as much as three per cent in June and 3.9 per cent in July.

While full-price sales returned to positive territory, total sales including markdowns fell 2.1 per cent in the quarter as it was left with less stock to shift in its clearance.

Markdowns tumbled 14 per cent as a result, Next said.

Lord Wolfson, chief executive of Next, said while he was pleased with the generally positive picture, he wasn't getting carried away. He said: "It's been a better half, but we're not getting too excited."

He added that the consumer outlook for the high street remains 'very tough' and is forecasting Next's second-half full-price sales to remain lower – down 1.2 per cent, in line with the first half.

He said: "Consumers are very cautious – real earnings are moderately down because wages aren't rising as fast as inflation. People aren't in the mood to splurge, particularly on clothing."

MP and Friends group in talks over town revamp

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin has met the Friends of Dudley group to go over potential improvements to the town.

The Labour MP sat down with Lesley Dunn, Janet Beardsmore and Ken and Tracy McClymont, and among the topics discussed were better signage, possibly bringing back tourist information points, and free parking.

Mr Austin said: "We also talked about the delays in getting Cavendish House and the area around it redeveloped and the bus station improved."

"I've promised to help them fix up meetings with councillors and senior council officers to discuss these ideas."

He added: "I also want to see Dudley Castle opened up throughout the summer with concerts and plays."

summer sale

Spread the cost with up to...

3 Years 0% Interest Free Credit...
on right now & all this weekend!



Everything is reduced throughout our 35,000 sq.ft. furniture superstore!

We've got huge sale reductions off all our furniture collections including many leading brand names!
You can also choose to spread the cost with just a low deposit & monthly payments up to **3 years totally interest free!***

"What ever your budget or style... we've got the furniture to suit!"

PRICE MATCH PROMISE
We'll not be beaten on price!
That's our promise to you!

WILLIAM & SONS
www.williamandsons.co.uk

Level Street | Merry Hill | Dudley | West Midlands | DY5 1UA | T. 01384 77444

OPENING TIMES: Monday to Friday 10-5.30pm Saturday 10-6pm Sunday 11-5pm

Sign up at williamandsons.co.uk to receive **OUR EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGE OFFERS!**

Alstons Baker bardy BUOYANT Harrison HTL KINGSTOWN Labus MYER'S rauch

0% APR Representative *Up to 3 years interest free credit offer available on orders over £500. 12 months term minimum spend £1,000, 18 months term minimum spend £1,500, 24 months term minimum spend £2,000, 36 months term minimum spend £3,000. Minimum deposit 25%. Representative Example: Cash Price £3,000, Deposit £750. Total amount of credit £2,250. Duration of the agreement 36 months. 36 x monthly repayments of £62.50 starting 1 month after delivery or collection. Annual Rate of Interest 0%. Representative APR 0%. Total amount payable £3,000. Written details available on request. Credit is subject to status. Terms & Conditions apply. Price Match Promise Terms & Conditions apply. Ask in store or see our website for further details. All offers subject to availability. E&OE.

14 Bridge club on lookout for players

Halesowen Chronicle Thursday, August 10, 2017

SEDGLEY Rubber Bridge Group is looking for new members for their Wednesday afternoon sessions.

The club meets at the Sedgley and District Community Centre every Wednesday at 1.30pm. Just turn up and enjoy an afternoon of bridge, a biscuit and a cup of tea all for just £1. No partner is required.

Bridge is also played at the centre on Thursdays and Friday.

Duplicate is played on Thursdays when a partner is required, but the group can try and find one for visitors.

Fridays is for anyone wishing to learn the basics of the game or for those just wishing to brush up on the game after a few years off. Again, just turn up as no partner is required.

Flower, honey and veggie show

A FLOWER, vegetable and honey show is being held for interested spectators in Sedgley later this month.

The annual Sedgley and District Community Association Gardening Club event is being held in the group's community centre, off Ladies Walk, on Saturday, August 19, from 12.30pm.

Admission is free to the event, which also includes the South Staffordshire District Beekeeping Association's show.

Marathon teachers give lesson on raising funds

THEY are more used to inspiring in the classroom than on the race track – but now more than 20 teachers from a school are gearing up for a charity marathon.

Around 23 members of staff from different departments at High Arcal School will take part in Carvers' Wolverhampton Marathon this September.

By Clare Butler

It will see them take part in the 10k run and 20k cycle event.

Mr Mahey, director of enterprise at the school, said: "We want to raise as much money as possible for Compton Hospice – £1,000 would be great."

Great

"I wanted to get involved with the Carvers run last year but then I had the idea that it would be great to get other staff to join with me too."

"We have a great health drive at our school and luckily they were keen to take part."

"We're on the summer holidays at the minute but we are still going to meet up and train together before we head back for the new term."

Mr Mahey said preparation for the event had also gained a healthier focus in school.

He continued: "It's kick-started a whole wellbeing project for students and

staff and we're even bringing in examples of our training to lessons, for instance in science and maths."

"To incorporate this into school life is important for us – it's not often you see staff do something like this and the response from the children has been amazing," Mr Mahey added.

"They're hoping to be there to cheer us on with banners and posters."

It will be the 20th anniversary of the Carver Wolverhampton Marathon Events this year, which sees people tackle a route around the city – running, walking, cycling or in wheelchairs. The participants range from serious club runners to fundraisers taking part in fancy dress.

The event will take place on September 3.

To donate visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/higharc



Henry Carver from Carvers, deputy head Dave Cooke and marathon organiser Mary Harding with school staff

Corrinne's wedding is a fairytale

A BRIDE celebrated her 'fairytale' wedding in the first to take place at an historic building.

Corrinne Carpenter, née Wilde, originally from Gornal, has lived overlooking Bantock House and Park for more than a decade.

Corrinne said: "To get married there was just wonderful. It has been a fairy tale. It has been like a big dream."

She married husband Steven Carpenter, from Bushbury, at the house in Finchfield on Saturday.

The couple have five children between them from past marriages and seven grandchildren.

The ceremony was held in the house's drawing room after which photographs were taken on the stairs of the Great Hall.

Sanctuary fun day is barking

A FAMILY fun day and dog show is being held at Brockwood Animal Sanctuary.

The event on Saturday, August 26, runs from 10am to 5pm.

There is a £2 entry fee per class at the event and there will be obedience and dog agility classes running throughout the day.

Admission to the sanctuary in Catholic Lane, Sedgley, is £4.30 for adults and £2.70 for children aged from four to 15 years old.

Express & Star

FIXED PRICE RECRUITMENT PACKAGE

FILL YOUR NEXT VACANCY WITH OUR BRONZE FIXED PRICE RECRUITMENT PACKAGE

Bronze package includes:

- 5cm x 2 column advert in Express & Star (Thursday)
- 5cm x 2 column advert in Chronicle of your choice
- Two week listing on jobs.expressandstar.com
- 5 line advert to appear in Express & Star Classified jobs for 5 nights
- We will run the lineage and online advert on a daily basis until you fill the vacancy

Package Price £399*

Contact Tracey Thompson on 01902 319645 or email tracey.thompson@expressandstar.co.uk



*All prices are subject to VAT

Glassworks show they are the best bear none

FROM the UK's last glass eye producer to the eye-catching creations of contemporary artists.

It's all on show at one of the world's biggest celebrations of glass-making.

The International Festival of Glass is returning to Stourbridge to celebrate and showcase the skill and innovation of the British glass industry.

This year, the theme is Glass For Good and organisers have sought examples of how glass has been a positive influence in people's lives. Events and activities will take place at the Ruskin Glass Centre, Red House Glass Cone and the White House Cone museum of glass, as well as other venues.

Positive

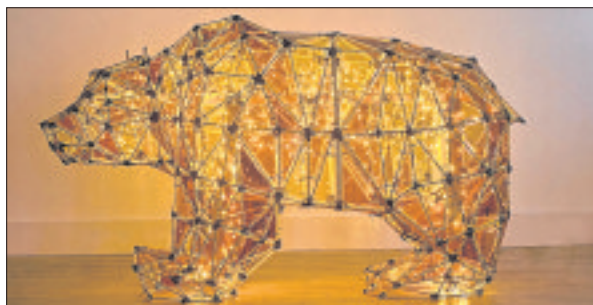
Festival director Janine Christley, from the Ruskin Mill Trust, said: "I felt with everything that had gone on in the world during the past year that we needed a positive message for the festival. We have this fantastic glass-making heritage but also a thriving contemporary industry too and there so many ways glass is making a difference."

The festival, which will run from August 25 to 28, includes the launch of a new programme to support veterans at the Ruskin Glass Centre.

It has been inspired by the Hot Shop Heroes project in Tacoma, US, which has been supporting some of America's wounded soldiers by teaching them to blow glass.

"Project leader Patricia Davidson is joining us to share her experiences and launch our own programme for British veterans," said Janine.

"It's a really inspirational project and we have seen how working in a hot shop with glass has benefitted soldiers



Heading to Stourbridge will be Jonathan Michie and his Pursued By A Bear



Narcissus by Scottish artist Alison Kinnaird Photo credit: Robin Morton

in Tacoma in so many ways." Jost Hass, who has been making glass eyes for 50 years, will be demonstrating at the festival.

"This is one of the last chances to see him in action before he retires," added Janine.

One of the highlights of the event is the British Glass Biennale – a world-renowned exhibition of excel-

lence in contemporary glass which features the work of 63 contemporary artists selected by a jury. Among those keeping their fingers crossed is Jonathan Michie, a student at Sunderland University, who has entered his complex creation, Pursued by a Bear, which was hand-built and includes LED lights. For the full programme go to rmlt.org.uk

ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF CARPET IN THE COUNTRY

Over 200 Part Rolls

ALL LESS 50%

At STD we have the best fitters and we are NEVER undercut on price

	Was sq yd	Now sq yd
Apollo	£9.95	£7.95
Majesty bleach cleanable.....	£13.95	£9.95
Sensations Heathers	£16.95	£12.95
Waterproof bathroom carpet....	£18.95	£8.36
Contract wilton	£18.95	£8.95

Plus many more great offers

SALE NOW ON



OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK
9.00 to 5.30;
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00;
Closed Wednesdays

10% OFF
All end rolls with
this voucher

Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00 Closed Wednesdays
Church Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3PT

TELEPHONE:
01384 76448
www.stdcarpets.com



Save £150*

on average

With E.ON Saver Fixed 1 Year

✓ Protect your energy prices

✓ Award winning service

**Switch
to us
today**

0333 202 4422

eonenergy.com/saver

e.on

*Saving quoted is calculated for dual fuel customers on unrestricted meters, using the national average prices across all regions of standard variable tariffs not in receipt of payment or other discounts, of large suppliers at Ofgem typical domestic consumption and switching to E.ON Saver Fixed 1 Year v12, paying by fixed monthly Direct Debit, managing account online with paperless billing and receiving a Dual Fuel discount. Not available to prepayment, restricted hours tariff meter, gas only or non-residential customers.

HOME BREW

Everything for home brewing and Winemaking

27 HIGH STREET, CRADLEY HEATH (OPPOSITE TESCO)
01384 620238 WWW.BREWMONKEY.CO.UK

GRAINFATHER HOME BAR EQUIPMENT GIFTS WINE MAKING CIDER

Wardrobes are back in fashion with a vengeance

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

with John Ridgway of Perry & Phillips



RECENTLY we looked at how to create some vintage style in a bathroom so this time around I thought we would concentrate on bedrooms.

There are plenty of items to choose from, starting with traditional, old-fashioned beds which can be bought in the saleroom for very reasonable prices.

You can find some lovely Victorian and Edwardian wooden beds, in everything from mahogany to cherry wood, and impressive brass beds dating from the same eras.

There are slightly more expensive walnut Art Nouveau beds around and stylish French 'sleigh' beds, four-posters and king-size.

It all depends on personal taste – and the size of the bedroom, we have known people under-estimate both a room size and the width of their stairwell, which can make delivery of the bed rather difficult!

Wardrobes became less popular a few years back when hanging rails seemed a cheaper and more contemporary option but they are back with a vengeance.

You can pick up some really lovely vintage ones in good condition and for extremely good prices at auction – but now is the time to buy before they increase in value.

Linen presses have also become a favourite and – although a large piece of furniture – can prove extremely useful storage.

Dressing tables again became a 'non essential' a few years ago and are



also back in the market, they too can be snapped up fairly cheaply.

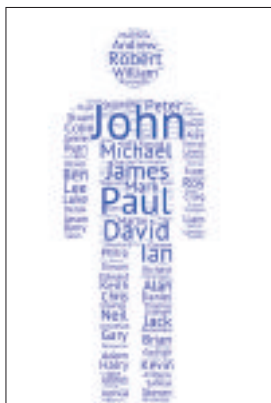
Old washstands look lovely in a bedroom, complete with bowl and jug, and you can complete the vintage look with cupboards, a blanket box and even a hat-stand.

And of course there are a plethora of lovely old bedroom accessories to choose from, including silver-backed brushes and mirrors, perfume bottles, glass dressing table sets and powder compacts.

Happy vintage shopping!

- Perry and Phillips hold valuation days, for sale items only, every Wednesday from 10am until 4pm at the Mill Street saleroom in Low Town, Bridgnorth.
- New sale bidders are advised to attend the sale-room early on auction day to register and be allocated a bidding number.
- Perry and Phillips hold sales on the first Tuesday of every other month.

What's in a name? Like clothes, they follow trends



There's lots of history behind names

MY SON is an 8th generation Daniel – I had no issues with carrying on the traditional family first name and neither it seems did he and his wife.

They had a girl though and put as much thought into naming her after the closest city in Tuscany to their wedding venue, exactly a year prior to her birth, the middle names picked from family ancestry.

It is a popular idea, naming children after the place they were conceived, born or significant to the lives of their families.

Children's names, unless family based, are trend orientated and certain names are popular defining the time of the birth or parent's age group.

Celebrities

Celebrities are a popular choice (Kylie, Presley, Dylan) and interestingly today there is the requirement for something unusual such as Apple, Blue, North and Ocean.

The most popular listed names for babies in 2016 being Oliver, Noah, Mohammed, Jack, George, Henry, Oscar, Alice, Amelia, Charlotte, Daisy, Poppy, Olivia and Sophia,

STYLE FOCUS

with Janet Timmis



so many of these used by our forefathers, the years in-between bringing such unusual titles as Tyler, Rylan, Buttercup, Indigo, Tyger and Moon.

I'm sure some children grow up dislike their christian names.

There was a man from Yorkshire who had his four sons christened "Do Well", "Love Well", "Fare Well" and "Die Well" and in 1880 a Mr Pepper, who lived in Liverpool, gave his daughter 26 names, one starting with each letter of the alphabet.

Let's hope she didn't need to sign many legal documents in her lifetime!

Animals too are named in a trendy way.

The latest names are humanoid, Fred, Brian, Geoff, Joyce and Sheila to suggest but a few, making you smile when you hear them being called to heel in the park.

Up to the time of William the Conqueror

christian names were all that were used to define us.

But surnames were introduced and used regularly by the 1400s usually defining an occupation.

Surnames came from the trades carried out – a Cooper produced barrels, a Miller flour and the Carter transported goods.

Long past nicknames were also a name source giving us Little, Brothers or Smart and a person's status such as Abbot, Freeman or Squire and so many of these older names have varied spelling due to the parish clerks writing down names phonetically.

Our surname gives us some depth, a history and a fascinating insight into our ancestry.

They can die out due to war or disease or a lack of boys born to carry on the family name, a reason for so many double-barrelled titles lately.

After all, if we really don't like our name, it can be changed by deed poll.

Visit www.jflexclusive.com, www.jfl-garmentsolutions.co.uk

Follow: [jflifeandloves on tumblr](https://www.tumblr.com/jflifeandloves)



Annabel Croft playing on Court 2 at Wimbledon as a 15-year-old in 1982



Tennis is a great game for the whole family activity and gets your kids outdoors

Why we should all make tennis our summer hobby



Annabel Croft: tennis teaches humility

IF you cried when Roger Federer won his record eighth Wimbledon title, then you might also have been inspired to pick up a racket and start playing tennis yourself.

If not, and you still need a little encouragement, here's former Junior Wimbledon champion and Tennis Academy founder Annabel Croft's top reasons for taking up the sport...

1. It's for all ages and abilities

"You can pick up a racket at a really young age - and my parents have played right into their late 70s. Also, what I love about it is you can either choose to play competitively, or you can just do it as a fun drill session, trying to improve a skill."

2. Your personality shines through

"It's a very creative and artistic sport, but it also challenges the mind, as well the body, and there's always a little element of your personality in the way that you hit a ball. The way that you interpret or hit a forehand will look different from the way somebody else does it."

"That's why, as a spectator, you get engaged with the person you're following, because of the way they move, or hit the ball. Everybody loves Roger Federer because

By Kate Whiting

he's such an artist and almost balletic in the way he moves so gracefully across the court, it's effortless. He is incredibly laid-back and very calm. He loves what he does and engages in the competition, but he respects his opponents."

3. It's a workout for your mind

"I had a hit this morning with a friend who used to be on the tour. I sweated and had a really good workout, but I challenged myself. No matter what level or standard you play at, there's always something to work on. There are so many different elements to tennis, forehand, backhand, volleys, low-volleys, high-volleys, smashes, drop shots, serves..."

"You have to really focus and concentrate and you're always trying to improve something. If you get there, and you feel like you're hitting that backhand a bit better, it's quite thrilling."

4. It's a great family game

"I play it on holiday with my kids - we always do sport in the morning. But it's such fun, sometimes when I'm out with them, I think, 'God, this is such lovely mummy-daughter, mummy-son time'. I could never get on a rugby pitch with my son, but I can play tennis with him. It's a real family

activity and it's a memory for him as much as it is for me. I really love that."

"And it gets them outdoors, which is great with so many kids being completely diverted by screen-based activity. I always think kids are like dogs, they need to be exercised or walked at least twice a day to get rid of their energy."

5. It teaches humility

"I have my own tennis academy and tennis holidays business, and when we are on the court together, it's quite sweet seeing [the kids'] enthusiasm. But they learn also about humility, because you're not going to be a winner every time in life. So, from a life perspective, for children, it's really good to learn how to win and to lose."

6. It's a stress-buster

"I definitely feel like I have refreshed my mind, done some activity and I always feel better off after exercise. I think it's a stress reliever as long as you're playing well!"

"It's about the attitude you have towards playing though, whether you want to just enjoy the challenge of trying to be a better tennis player, or try to win on the court."

"That's very much Rafa Nadal's mantra, it's always about him trying to be a better player, not trying to win, because if you live and die by winning or losing, then you might lose more than you win."

MOToring

**NEW REG
SPECIAL**

17

Halesowen Chronicle Thursday, August 10, 2017

Attractive range of 67-plate offers from DS

DS Automobiles has a selection of consumer offers across its model range. With the new 67-plate September in mind, the latest campaign offers includes the new DS 3 Connected Chic trim level, and Limited Edition: DS 3 Inès de la Fressange, DS 4 Crossback Terre Rouge and DS 4 Crossback Moondust.

DS 3 is an elegant car with broad appeal and a perfect choice for individuals who like personalisation. The new DS 3 Connected Chic model has further attractive features, with 17 inch black diamond-cut alloy wheels, LED front fog lights, Black Contrast Pack, Basalt Black cloth upholstery, dark tinted windows, satellite navigation, Mirror Screen with Mirror Link® and Apple CarPlay™, alarm and auto air conditioning. DS 3 Connected Chic is available from £199/month over 36 months and includes a £700 manufacturer's deposit contribution, three-year warranty and roadside assistance.

Authentic

For those who want a sportier appearance, DS 3 Performance Line is a perfect choice, while those with more enthusiastic drives in mind can look to the capable DS 3 Performance model. The DS 3 Performance Line trim level features coloured stitching influenced by the colours of DS Performance on the leather sports steering wheel and seats, Performance Line badging, and is available from £239/month over 36 months with a £1,600 manufacturer's deposit contribution. DS 3 Performance models are available from £389/month over 36 months with a £1,000 manufacturer's deposit contribution.

Staying true to the promise of delivering authentic Limited Edition models that go further to express the DS brand's avant-garde spirit and French heritage, DS 3 Inès de la Fressange is an exclusive model with only 200 of the models available in the UK. The Limited Edition model features an Ink Blue paint finish with Opal White roof and complemented on inside with sumptuous Granite Blue leather upholstery and equipped with DS LED Vision – exquisite looking Xenon headlights. DS 3 Inès de la Fressange Limited Edition is available from £269/month, over 36 months with a £1,600 manufacturer's deposit contribution.

DS 4 Crossback is the brand's adventurer model. The Limited Edition Moondust and Terre Rouge enhance the model's versatility. The DS 4 Crossback Moondust features a striking matt paint finish to its Platinum Grey bodywork, with DS LED Vision, touchscreen technology and luxurious Basalt Black grained leather interior trim. The Limited Edition model with PureTech 130 petrol engine is available from £395/month over 36 months and comes with a £2,800 manufacturer's deposit contribution.

Offering a refined driving experience, the DS 5 Performance Line adds sports styling to technical excellence. The model comes with an intuitive touchscreen, DS LED Vision technology. DS 5 Performance Line with the BlueHDI 150 Diesel engine and 6-speed manual transmission is available from £445/month over 36 months with a £2,950 manufacturer's deposit contribution.



DS announces attractive offers – ideal for those purchasing a brand new 67-plate car in September



All DS models have a bucketfull of technology on board



DS Performance Line offers a sportier appearance

An eight-page commercial spotlight on what dealers have on the forecourt for the new registration on September 1

Smart, value-for-money supermini

By Sharon Walters

That's a bit smart, said my car enthusiast friend Gay, but what is it? I can't say I know the brand, she added before peering inside to add that she liked that as well.

It's a supermini, an MG, I replied. Really? she asked. You don't see many of those about do you?

Well it's about time we did and with MG's current expansion plans it shouldn't be too long before recognition becomes instant.

In the bad old good old days MG was a motoring force to be reckoned with but we all know what happened a few years ago. Then along came the Chinese who saved the brand and set about salvaging some sort of motoring industry at the Longbridge plant on the outskirts of Birmingham.

MG Motor UK, with strong financial backing from overseas, has now set about a major expansion of dealers throughout the UK and by the end of this year will have 90 in place.

There is a straightforward approach to franchising and low cost of set-up appeals to dealers that want to be part of a dynamic and successful organisation, to be listened to and to play a role in shaping the future direction of the franchise.

New car registration figures for MG have vastly increased almost and the brand expects to break 5,000 new car registrations at the end of the year, thanks to its MG3 and MG GS, as well as the launch of its all-new Compact SUV at the end of the year.

All vehicle design and engineering takes place at SAIC Motor UK Technical Centre (SMTU) in Birmingham, which employs 300 engineers and is co-located with the headquarters of MG Motor UK.

Alongside evolving the initial concepts for



There's plenty of space in the cabin

all new MG vehicles, the team also manages testing and innovation programmes.

This includes a global initiative to create new, environmentally-friendly powertrain technologies.

Now back to the supermini which attracted attention.

I thoroughly enjoyed a week behind the wheel. Value-for-money is excellent and although it could do with an interior refresh, it's pretty and a nippy little mover.

Plus there's a much lower insurance rating of Group 4E, less than half of many of its competitors. And that's good news for young drivers who face exorbitant premiums on other marques.

All models benefit from front LED daytime running lights and electronic hill hold as standard. Aside from the entry level model, all MG3s feature a high-quality DAB audio system.

The exterior style is sporty, with black A-pillars and 'wrap-around' windscreen, and



You can personalise your MG3

inside it one of the largest and most spacious cabins in the Supermini class.

You get six airbags, electronic stability control, corner brake control and traction control, all as standard.

Buyers can also design their own MG3 with a wide range of colours, exterior graphics, interior colour packs and part-leather upholstery created by the UK design team and inspired by the British fashion industry.

There are four models in the MG3 line up and a full range of options and accessories. At the top of the range is the MG3 3Style+, with premium 16" 'Diamond' alloy wheels and a sports body styling pack that includes a rear boot spoiler and side sill extensions.

Standard high-tech convenience features include cruise control, automatic lights and windscreen wipers and reverse parking sensors. In addition, the MG3 3Style+ now comes with leather seats as standard.

The mid-range MG3 3Form includes air conditioning, cruise control, DAB radio,



AVAILABLE FROM
SUMMIT GARAGE
HIMLEY ROAD, GORNAL
WOOD, DUDLEY DY3 2RA
01384 259555
WWW.SUMMITGARAGE.
CO.UK

This five-door supermini is fun, sure-footed and a comfortable ride

Bluetooth and audio streaming, a leather MG-design steering wheel with red stitching and steering wheel audio controls all as standard, over and above the entry model specification.

For those who want top-of-the-range looks but find the high level of equipment in a 3Form is enough, then there is the MG3 3Form Sport. This includes all the features of the mid-range 3Form plus the sports body styling pack and 16" 'Carousel' alloy wheels. The entry model MG3 3Time features a CD player with MP3 compatibility and Aux-in facility.

All models are powered by a sporty 106PS petrol engine with a five-speed manual

gearbox and have the same great MG chassis designed to make driving the MG3 a bit more fun than your average small car.

The car will easily cope with tall people in its airy cabin and the front seats are exceptionally comfortable, especially for longer journeys. No wiggling about when caught in jams on motorways, I found.

This five-door supermini is fun, sure-footed, a comfortable ride on all types of road and a great all-rounder.

Prices start at £8,695, with the top-of-the-range model retailing at £11,695 – almost £5,000 cheaper than many competitors.

MG.CO.UK f /MGMOTOR @MGMOTOR

MG3 3STYLE+

DEPOSIT **£189**

60 MONTHLY
PAYMENTS **£189**

0% APR

Terms and conditions apply*

**MORE
TO LOVE**

**LESS
TO PAY OUT**

+ REAR PARKING SENSORS

+ CRUISE
CONTROL



+ LEATHER
INTERIOR

+ BLUETOOTH

+ DAB RADIO

Like a Fiesta, but around £5000 less.

Are you after a new car with a low deposit and low monthly payments? Look no further...



MG MOTOR UK

**VISIT MG.CO.UK
TO ARRANGE A TEST
DRIVE TODAY**

SUMMIT GARAGE, Dudley 01384 259555

MG3 fuel consumption: URBAN 41.7 mpg | 6.8 l/100km, EXTRA URBAN 59.6 mpg | 4.8 l/100km, COMBINED 51.5 mpg | 5.5 l/100km, CO2 Emissions: 124g/km.

Model shown : MG3 3Form Sport in Whiter than White at £11,695. *On the road (OTR) price of £8,399 applies to the MG3 3Time with no optional extras. OTR prices include VAT where applicable, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and 12 months 'Vehicle Excise Duty'. From prices exclude optional metallic paint, accessories and graphics packs. Fuel consumption values shown are based on official EU test figures and are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not be representative of actual driving results. Offer terms and conditions apply.

*0% APR: Conditional sale. 0% APR available on all MG3 models until 30.06.2017. A minimum deposit of 20% of the cash OTR price applies. Finance by MG Financial Services, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff CF15 7YT, subject to status, availability and terms and conditions. Applicants must be aged 18 or over at participating dealers. See your local dealer or visit mg.co.uk/offers for details.

Summit Garage (Dudley) Limited trading as Summit Garage, is acting as a credit broker and not a lender. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received.

Fiesta matures from cheeky chappie

By Ian Donaldson

A couple of miles into the test drive I realised the car was humming quietly along the main road – in fourth gear.

If ever you needed a demonstration that the new Fiesta has matured into an even more serious player here it was, with two gears left to go.

At a stroke the best selling car in the UK for the last eight years has turned from cheeky chappie (but loads of fun) into a car that feels bigger and softer and not quite so keen to have a laugh with you.

That certainly applies to the likely biggest seller in the new range, the Zetec trim version with its 100 horsepower engine and – crucially – new six-speed gearbox instead of the previous five.

There's a more sporty tied-down ST-Line Fiesta due in the autumn which early signs say has fun factor 50 but it's going to be a relatively small seller, thoroughly outgunned by less expensive versions – and with the Zetec taking more than half the total sales.

So it's good that the Zetec – second up in a Fiesta pecking order stretching from 70 horsepower petrol £12,715 Style to 120 horsepower diesel £21,225 Vignale – is such an instant charmer.

More so on the inside than out, you'd have to say. The exterior of the latest Fiesta has grown very modestly (70mm longer, 13mm wider but 20mm lower) and is completely restyled, although you might never guess.

That's as fine a compliment to the outgoing model as you could pay; don't mess with a look that's won thousands of sales. Doesn't do VW any harm with succeeding generations of Golfs, does it?

The result is a car with space to spare in the front – and a near perfect driving position – but just enough room in the rear for a couple of adults and a boot big enough for a family's supermarket shop but less generous than some of the competition.

Inside is where the attention needed to be paid, with the old car's dashboard looking increasingly like a relic from the past, littered with meanly sized displays and an excess of tiny buttons. All gone! Replaced in the modern minimalist fashion by a big iPad-like touchscreen that looks smart but doesn't have a lot to say for itself without a satellite navigation map on display (sat nav is standard on some dearer cars, a £300 option on others).

There's more soft touch plastic than previously, lending a gently more upmarket feel to proceedings. With the posh Vignale version you will enjoy the heated leather seats and steering wheel that a mere Zetec trim car can only dream about.

If the all-change interior is much needed step up, the engine choice is mostly as before, which is no bad thing if you enjoy the willing thrum of a three-cylinder petrol unit. Gone is the old and mildly asthmatic 1.25 litre engine, with most new Fiestas using versions of the established 1.0 litre three-cylinder unit in differing outputs – 100/125/140 horsepower and with CO2 readings from as low as 97g/km.

The old 1.5 litre diesel engine remains, in two power outputs (85/120 horsepower, from 82g/km), but will take less than one in ten sales.

The new six-speed manual gearbox will feature in the bulk of new Fiestas, which will have five doors too. Ford is sticking with a



The exterior of the latest Fiesta has grown very modestly and is completely re-styled

three-door option in a market increasingly ditching this choice on the grounds that not enough buyers bother these days to make it worthwhile.

The on-paper list price of most cars is an irrelevance these days and that's absolutely the case with the Fiesta, where 85 per cent of private buyers will opt for a personal contract plan (PCP) that provides a Zetec-spec car from £116 a month over three years and

with a £5,000 deposit. That's an increase of £15 a month over the outgoing and a drive in the new one makes that look a sensible investment.

Tweaks to the suspension and clearly a lot of work on soundproofing have changed the Fiesta into a car that quietly soaks up bad British road surfaces, only objecting a little to the biggest bumps, and turning into corners with most of the eagerness of old.

Even with fourth gear standing in for sixth some of the time (blame that newfound quietness) the test drive showed 46mpg in a 100 horsepower version, which never felt underpowered.

If a tiny bit of the puppy dog spirit has gone you have to reckon the payback in refined progress is going to be welcomed by the majority of owners. And there are quicker, firmer ones on the way soon, don't forget.

BE ONE OF THE FIRST

ALL-NEW FIESTA FIRST DRIVE

IN OUR SHOWROOM NOW

£500 CUSTOMER SAVING*

WHEN YOU TAKE A TEST DRIVE BEFORE 31 AUGUST

With features never seen before in the Fiesta, such as a high-quality B&O PLAY sound system, the latest SYNC 3 technology and the revealing panorama sunroof, be one of the first to experience the All-New Fiesta and save £500* when you take a test drive before 31 August at T Wall Garages - Kingswinford.



T Wall Ford

High Street, Pensnett
Kingswinford, DY6 8XB
Tel. 01384 288333
www.twallford.co.uk

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the All-New Fiesta range are: urban 40.9-80.7 (6.9-3.5), extra urban 67.3-94.2 (4.2-3.0), combined 54.3-88.3 (5.2-3.2). Official CO₂ emissions 118-82g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results (EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008), are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

*Promotion excludes KA+, Focus RS and Mustang. Test drive a Ford vehicle between the 1st July and 31st of August 2017 and receive an additional £500 customer saving (including VAT) off the Recommended On The Road price of selected new Ford cars or £500 customer saving (excluding VAT) off the Recommended Retail Price of any new Ford Commercial Vehicle, that are contracted and registered between 1st July and 31st August 2017. Promotion at T Wall Garages - Kingswinford. Promotion available to Retail, Privilege, Ambassador and eligible Fleet customers only. The £500 Customer Saving is in addition to all other existing promotions.

Serious option for fleet or retail

By John Griffiths

The current trend for sports utility vehicles (SUVs) has taken a big bite out of the market for rather more traditional large family car.

But that hasn't stopped Vauxhall investing in just such a car: an appealing model designed to turn heads with the style, room and value for money to lure buyers back down the more traditional road as well as competing with well-established rivals such as the Audi A4, VW Passat and Ford Mondeo.

The new Insignia Grand Sport looks well-placed to achieve that: although a five-door it has the sharp, sporting lines of a big sports coupe which disguise the fact that it's cabin is among the biggest in its class, rivaling the spacious Skoda Superb and even premium saloons such as the Mercedes E-Class.

The price may also be a surprise – the SRI model tested, powered by Vauxhall's familiar 1.6 turbo diesel – has a showroom tag of under £21,000. There are more expensive superminis out there, and the Grand Sport undercuts most of its family car competitors.

Remarkably the range starts from £17,185 for the 1.5 litre turbocharged petrol version.

Price, of course, is important to the retail buyer but it's likely the majority of these cars will be bought by companies and fleets where it's still a big factor, as a lower price means lower benefit in kind tax payments than more expensive rivals. Road tax is £140 a year and the insurance group is a reasonable 16E.

Another factor in whole life costs is CO2 emissions: the 136PS model tested has a 114g/km rating and an official fuel economy figure of 65.7mpg (I achieved 54mpg without any conscious effort at economy driving).

There's a lower powered (110PS) version of the same 1.6 engine, with even better efficiency figures (70.6mpg and 105g/km) but naturally there's a slight performance penalty. It's 0 to 62mph time is a second down at 10.9.

SRI is the sporty trim, so the test car included aluminium pedals and a mix of glass black and chrome fittings, giving the airy cabin a quality feel. The whole ambience is one of a class above a £21,000 car.



The car has the sharp, sporting lines of a big sports coupé



There's an eight-inch colour touchscreen controller

Size apart, from the outside the new car includes a wider, flatter grille, sculpted panels and a discreet rear spoiler on the boot. The effect is understated but elegant. Also worthy of mention are the car's new LED Matrix headlamps with 32 lighting elements compared to 16 on the smaller Astra. The £1,010 optional set-up is brighter, but also very precise in the way that they shut down sections of light to avoid dazzling oncoming drivers.

While it bears a strong resemblance to its award-winning predecessor the Insignia, the new car is actually new from the ground up.

It's built on a brand new platform, and has a longer wheelbase which enabled the engineers to create much more interior space, which will be particularly apparent to those in the back. Legroom is approaching the limousine class.

The boot is slightly smaller than its predecessor, but is still a family-sized 490 litres.

The Grand Sport is also 175kg lighter (that's like carrying two fewer adult passengers) which together with excellent aerodynamics helps engine improvements in delivering significant better economy and performance.

A further effect is its on-road ambience: at 70mph you're more likely to notice the steady hiss of the air conditioning than the engine, or any wind noise, as you make progress at well under 2,000rpm in top (sixth) gear.

The ride on the standard 17-inch alloy wheels is supple even over more roughly surfaced B-roads and yet the dynamic compromise is so good the Grand Sport handles nimbly, with the agility of a smaller 'warm' hatchback. Threading it through the twistier sections it won't disappoint the more enthusiastic driver and never feels like the big car it is (until you come to parking, of course).

The six-speed manual gearbox is slick and positive, but how much you use it depends on how much of an enthusiast you are. With 136PS and a hefty 320Nm of torque the

engine will respond smoothly at a wide range of cruising speeds.

The standard equipment list includes automatic wipers and headlights, electrically adjustable and heated mirrors, dual zone climate control, cruise control with speed limiter, parking sensors and remote control on the steering wheel.

The test car was also fitted with a clear and comprehensive head-up display, which together with the thumb-operated speed limiter, were a real boon in keeping me legal in a car which is so smooth and quiet (the test vehicle also had noise-reducing laminated side windows).

Naturally there's an eight-inch colour touchscreen controller, for operating the satnav, audio and full connectivity systems.

My feeling is the optional head-up display is well worth the £220 extra, as it projects simple, basic information onto the windscreen in line with the driver's eyes.

Speed, satnav prompts, and early warnings

of cars or pedestrians in your path are also included.

The lane departure warning system gives a visual warning too, but actually works rather cleverly.

It doesn't intervene if you take a deliberate manoeuvre (for example when overtaking) but if it detects you're wandering over the white line you get a gentle tug on the steering wheel, too.

Naturally new cars to be better than the ones they replace, but even compared to its award-winning predecessor the Insignia Grand Sport conveys a feeling that it's a quantum leap forward.

Among the biggest and best equipped in its class, it's as refined as many of its so-called 'premium' rivals and it's very competitive price and economy make it a serious option for fleet or retail buyers.

For those who want even more cargo space, there's the Sport Tourer (estate) version and for the enthusiast a 260PS GSI option.



AVAILABLE FROM
T WALL GARAGES
HIGH STREET, PENNETT,
KINGSWINFORD DY6 8XB
01384 288333
WWW.TWALL.CO.UK

An appealing modern designed to turn heads with the style, room and value for money to lure buyers back

Car that fills more practical needs

By Ian Donaldson

Vauxhall is keen to tell you what its new Crossland X is not – and it's not a mildly macho four-wheel driver for people with adventurous tastes.

No, that task is filled in the range by the nearly-as-new Mokka X, a mere finger's length longer, but aimed at different buyers.

The Crossland X is as more down to earth machine (literally; it lacks the Mokka's rock defying ground clearance and 4WD availability) and is aimed at filling the more practical needs of its buyers.

And these, Vauxhall thinks, will be either younger couples who need the Crossland's space for people and their bits and bobs or older types who relish the car's raised seating and the way it makes for easier entry and exit as the joints begin to creak a little.

Either group will be taking on a car that looks crisply neat outside and in and starts at a family friendly £16,555 – although Vauxhall is following the industry trend and offers only a single colour (blue) that doesn't mean another £550 for metallic paint.

The range tops out at £21,380, heading a line up that borrows heavily from the Peugeot group for the bits you can't see, from body platform to engines and gearboxes.

That deal was struck years before the recent takeover of Vauxhall by the Peugeot empire and there's another joint venture due later this year with the larger Grandland X, which shares bits with the French firm's 3008.

It's no surprise that Vauxhall is keen to ramp up its offerings in the SUV part of the market, growing at a phenomenal pace

as buyers shun the more traditional small hatchback. They'll enjoy the sense of space in the Crossland X, with loads of headroom front and back and a rear seat (which for £300 can optionally slide forward to favour boot room) that is adult-friendly too. That means a useful increase in the already generous boot capacity, from 410 litres to 520 litres, or a van-like 1,255 litres with the rear seat folded flat.

The entry-level engine is the 1.2-litre petrol with 81bhp (54.3mpg combined; 116g/km CO2). Elsewhere in the range, the 1.2 Turbo with petrol direct injection is available in three variants. The ECOTEC engine is equipped with the five-speed manual transmission (58.9mpg combined; 111-109 g/km CO2) and delivers 108bhp, while the 1.2-litre combined with the six-speed automatic gearbox manages 57.3mpg combined and 123g/km CO2).

The top-of-the-line petrol engine is the 1.2 Turbo with 128bhp (55.4mpg combined; 116g/km CO2) and six-speed manual transmission. This takes the Vauxhall Crossland X from zero to 62mph in 9.1 seconds and to a maximum speed of 128mph.

The line-up also includes two turbocharged diesel engines, including the 1.6 with 98bhp. The diesel ECOTEC variant, with Start/Stop, emits 93g/km CO2 and achieves up to 78.5mpg combined. The most powerful diesel is the 1.6 with 118bhp (70.6mpg combined; 105g/km CO2) and a top speed of 116mph.

Standard kit across the range includes climate control, alloy wheels, cruise control and LED daytime running lights. Depending on grade or options, your Crossland X can park itself without the driver touching the



AVAILABLE FROM
T WALL GARAGES
HIGH STREET, PENNETT,
KINGSWINFORD DY6 8XB
01384 288333
WWW.TWALL.CO.UK

There's lots of headroom front and back and a rear seat that's adult-friendly too plus a generous boot

steering wheel (which can be heated) and will beat winter frosts with a heated windscreen.

Opt for Vauxhall's OnStar system and your car becomes a wi-fi hotspot, with the chance to hook up seven mobile devices. So the kids will stay silently glued to their iPads in the back.

The way the car feels on the road depends

greatly on what's under the bonnet. They all share a ride that prefers smoother roads and turns a bit sharp on bad ones and the likely most popular, the 110 horsepower petrol lacks sparkle when provoked, although 45mpg on the test route was some compensation.

The more powerful 128bhp petrol model was very much livelier (and its six-speed gearbox

sweeter) and returned an identical 45mpg. It felt a transformed vehicle.

Much more economical (58mpg on test) was the more powerful of the diesel Crosslands, which felt as swift as the better petrol and makes sense for the business user (a minority of buyers here) who won't mind the higher purchase price.

WE'LL GIVE YOU **£4000**

MINIMUM PART-EXCHANGE ALLOWANCE FOR YOUR OLD CAR AGAINST A BRAND NEW VAUXHALL



YES, **£4000** ANY AGE, ANY CONDITION*

We want your old Citroën, Fiat, Honda, Mazda, Peugeot, Renault, Skoda, Nissan, Toyota, Volkswagen, etc, in fact any Make any Model any age, and we'll give you a Minimum £4000 Part-Exchange Allowance against a brand new 67 Plate Vauxhall.

Call into our Showroom NOW for more details



NU 67 REG
VAUXHALLS

FOR LESS THAN
£9500[†]

LOW RATE
FINANCE
AVAILABLE[^]

Halesowen Motor House
Dudley Rd, Halesowen,
West Midlands B63 3NH
0121 503 0001
www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk

TWall Vauxhall
High Street, Pensnett,
Kingswinford DY6 8XB
01384 288333
www.twall.co.uk

Stourbridge Motor House
High Street, Amblecote,
Nr. Stourbridge DY8 4DG
01384 447970
www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk

Dudley Motor Company
Trindle Road, Dudley,
West Midlands DY2 7AY
01384 454100
www.dudleymotorco.co.uk



YOUR LOCAL BLACK COUNTRY VAUXHALL DEALERS

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 12.7 (22.3) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) - 94.2 (3.0), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 88.3 (3.2). CO₂ emissions: 373 - 85g/km. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. *Ts&Cs apply, certain models excluded, must have owned p/x vehicle for a minimum of 90 days. ^Finance available subject to age and status, written quotations on request, guarantees and indemnities may be required. †Inc Part Exchange Allowance. Terms & Conditions and exclusions apply on new vehicles ordered and delivered before 30.09.17. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other Black Country Dealer offer. All offers subject to stock availability. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

Quirky little compact and affordable

By Simon Davis

Suzuki's Ignis offers buyers an affordable price tag, a fairly generous amount of standard equipment and respectable fuel economy figures from its peppy little 1.2-litre engine that it shares with the Swift. Then, of course, there are those rather quirky looks, which will no doubt appeal to customers who are in the market for a car that stands out from the crowd.

To look at, the little Suzuki 'compact crossover' combines quite a cutesy face with a rather staunch stance – well, as staunch a stance a car this size can manage, anyway. Regardless of your tastes, it does have the effect of giving the Ignis a far more assertive presence on the road than those of its immediate rivals in the city car class.

Inside, the Ignis is a bit of a let-down, with cheap plastics in the cabin. But then again, this is billed as an affordable city runabout, so to complain about less-than-premium materials being used in the interior rather seems to defeat the whole purpose of the car.

Don't expect to be bowled over by the Ignis's practicality. Sure there is enough room in the cabin for four adults, but don't expect them to be massively comfortable for long journeys. Despite the car's rather tall stance, headroom in the back of the Ignis is tight, and taller passengers will find their heads come in contact with the roof. That said, though, knee room isn't too bad at all. For those with small children (who won't mind being in the back of the car), it's worth mentioning that only the entry-level SZ3 Ignis is available with three seats in the second row.



You can get a week's shopping in the boot

As far as boot space goes, the Ignis offers 260 litres with the rear seats in place, which is more than enough for a week's worth of food shopping.

The Ignis is only available with one engine – the same 1.2-litre petrol unit that's found in the larger Swift. The four-cylinder engine isn't the most powerful, with only 89bhp on tap, but it does a good enough job of getting the big little city car up to speed. The dash, or stroll in this case, from 0-60mph takes 12 seconds, and in cars that feature the SHVS 'mild hybrid' system and four-wheel drive, this drops to 11.3.

One of the first things you'll notice is the fact that you sit rather high up. While this does mean visibility out of the sides and back is excellent, it also gives the impression that the car will roll around a bit more in the corners – which it certainly does. This is a car that has been engineered to provide a comfortable ride, rather than one that is all about out-and-

AVAILABLE FROM
HALESOWEN MOTOR HOUSE
DUDLEY ROAD, HALESOWEN
B63 3NH
0121 503 0001
WWW.
HALESOWENMOTORHOUSE.
CO.UK



Around town, the Ignis is an ace little car to drive. It's incredibly light controls make light manoeuvres a doddle

out driving dynamics. Don't get us wrong, though – on British roads it deals with lumps, bumps and uneven surfaces in a composed manner, which is a welcome characteristic.

Around town, the Ignis is an ace little car to drive. Its incredibly light controls make tight manoeuvres a doddle, and thanks to incredibly short overhangs, you're never in too much danger of accidentally prancing into anything. SZ-T and SZ5 models also get a standard-fit rear-view camera that makes parking even easier.

Suzuki hasn't left much room to criticise the Ignis as far as value for money is concerned. Base-spec SZ3 models come with standard features such as DAB radio and Bluetooth connectivity, as well as USB connectivity and a CD player that is MP3 compatible.

Moving up the range, the SZ-T gains larger 16-inch alloys, a touchscreen infotainment system that incorporates satellite navigation and a rear parking camera, while the flagship SZ5 gains LED headlights, keyless entry and climate control.

Running costs aren't terribly horrendous, either. Suzuki claims the SZ5 SHVS 4x4 model that we tested can manage a pretty good combined fuel economy figure of 60.1mpg.

While we didn't quite manage this, we were still able to average around 52mpg during our time with the Ignis.

It's a fairly comprehensive little car, really, and when you consider that prices for the SZ3 start at just £9,999, it's quite a sensible choice, too.

INCREDIBLE



AFFORDABLE, UNMISSABLE • NEW 67 REG • SUZUKI DEALS

SUZUKI
CELERIO 1.0 SZ3



DRIVE NOW FROM ONLY **£139** PER MONTH*

SUZUKI
IGNIS SZT



DRIVE NOW FROM ONLY **£149** PER MONTH*

SUZUKI
SWIFT 1.0 SZ5 MET PAINT



DRIVE NOW FROM ONLY **£159** PER MONTH*

SUZUKI
VITARA 1.6 SZ-T



DRIVE NOW FROM ONLY **£199** PER MONTH*

ORDER NOW FOR NEW 67 REGISTRATION SEPTEMBER DELIVERY

Halesowen Motor House

Dudley Road, Halesowen B63 3NH. Tel: 0121 503 0001

SEE MORE FANTASTIC NEW 67 REG OFFERS ONLINE AT:
www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km). Highest: SUZUKI Swift 1.6 2WD, M5: Urban 33.6 (8.4), extra urban 54.3 (5.2), combined 44.1 (6.4), official CO2 emissions 147g/km. Lowest: SUZUKI Celerio 1.0 Dualjet, M5: Urban 68.9 (4.1), extra urban 83.0 (3.4), combined from 78.4 (3.6), official CO2 emissions 84g/km. Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Personal Contract Hire (without Maintenance) Suzuki Celerio 1.0 SZ3: Term 48 months, Initial Rental £1,251, mileage 7,000, Monthly Rental £139. Suzuki Ignis 1.2 Dualjet SZ-T manual + Met paint: Term 60 months, Initial Rental £1,788, mileage 8,000, Monthly Rental £149. Suzuki Swift 1.0 Boosterjet SZ5 SHVS + Met paint: Term 60 months, Initial Rental £1,908, mileage 8,000, Monthly Rental £159. Suzuki Vitara 1.6 SZ-T manual + red/black Dual-tone paint: Term 36 months, Initial Rental £1,194, mileage 9,500, Monthly Rental £199. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. Offers subject to availability. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. *Finance is available subject to status. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Written quotations available on request. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

Unique new Fiesta offers at Hills Ford

The Ford Fiesta is a car that the British public has always warmed to. In its latest edition, there are three impressive, re-imagined state-of-the-art models. And at Hills Ford you'll have the extraordinary offer of a Lifetime Warranty on the All-New Fiesta, this is a unique offer, exclusive to Hills Ford.

Also, when you give the Fiesta a test drive before the end of August at either of the Hills Ford showrooms in Kidderminster or Malvern, you'll enjoy the fantastic 'Summer Test Drive Offer'. This will give you a £500 customer saving, in addition to all the other existing promotions.

Hills Ford is proud to have a loyal following of customers, who like their premier service and extensive range of new and used cars.

Visitors are welcomed to a bright, comfortable showroom by an experienced and knowledgeable sales team who value maintaining the goodwill of their customers.

One thing you'll notice with the new Fiesta is the amazing Panorama Sunroof that (almost) covers the entire roof so that you can soak up every last beam of sunshine and delight in a light, airy and enjoyable ride.

Beneath the smarter styling lies some clever user-friendly technology and cabin quality. You'll be able to stay connected with SYNC 3, the state-of-the-art touchscreen and voice technology helping to make every journey effortless and enjoyable.

There is also the B&O PLAY system with its incredible sound specifically designed for the Fiesta by B&O PLAY's specialist acousticians.

All of this will be powered by the excellent range of fully developed, trusted engines that Ford supply.

The 1.0-litre EcoBoost petrol engine has been named 2017 International Engine of the

Year "Best Engine Under 1.0 litre" for the sixth year in a row. It is fuel-efficient, compact and powerful and has won 10 International Engine of Year awards since its launch in 2012.

Fuel efficiency is further enhanced with AutoStartStop technology offered for all engines.

At Hills Ford, you will find a comprehensive aftersales service too, with repair and maintenance workshops equipped with the most advanced diagnostic and repair tools, utilized by a similarly dedicated and efficient team of accredited automotive technicians.

And behind it all is the methodical and efficient administrative staff who work hard to ensure that our customers never suffer delays or inconvenience. What's more, they provide 12-months roadside assistance free of charge with any Ford Service for that extra peace of mind.

Ford's Fiesta has always been affordable and great to drive and this update has been done with a polish and self-belief that we've never seen from a Fiesta before. And at Hills Ford, with their unmatched customer service, facilities and special offers, you can go for a test drive at one of the Midlands premier car retailers.

● Kidderminster: Worcester Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 1JB. Telephone: 01562 540550. Business hours: Monday to Friday - 8:45 to 18:30. Saturday - 8:45 to 17:30. Sunday - 10:30 - 16:30.

Malvern: 169-171 Newtown Road, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 1PJ. Telephone: 01684 210550. Business hours: Monday to Friday - 8:45 to 18:00. Saturday - 8:45 to 17:30.

Website: www.hillsford.co.uk. For details on the Fiesta go to www.hillsford.co.uk/new-cars/new-ford-fiesta



AVAILABLE FROM
HILLS FORD
WORCESTER ROAD,
KIDDERMINSTER DY10
1JB
01562 540522
WWW.HILLSFORD.CO.UK

There is a stylish new exterior and revolutionary interior design

67 HEAVEN!

Order your New Ford now for September Delivery

EXCLUSIVE LIFETIME WARRANTY
ON NEW FORD FIESTA

UNIQUELY AVAILABLE AT HILLS FORD

0% APR REPRESENTATIVE
ON SELECTED BRAND NEW FORD MODELS*

BE ONE OF THE FIRST TO SEE THE **NEW FORD GT!**
IT'S AT OUR SHOWROOM NEXT TO THE ORIGINAL FORD GT
FOR ONE DAY ONLY - **THURSDAY 17TH AUGUST** - DON'T MISS IT!



HILLS FORD

Worcester Road, Kidderminster DY10 1JB
01562 549853

169-171 Newtown Road, Malvern WR14 1PJ
01684 212427

hillsford.co.uk   

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the All-New Fiesta range are: urban 40.9-80.7 (6.9-3.5), extra urban 67.3-94.2 (4.2-3.0), combined 54.3-88.3 (5.2-3.2). Official CO2 emissions 118-82g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results (EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008), are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

*Test drive a Ford vehicle between the 1st July and 31st of August 2017 and receive an additional £500 customer saving (including VAT) off the Recommended On The Road price of selected new Ford cars or £500 customer saving (excluding VAT) off the Recommended Retail Price of any new Ford Commercial Vehicle, that are contracted and registered between 1st July and 31st August 2017. Promotion at Hills Ford. Promotion available to Retail, Privilege, Ambassador and eligible Fleet customers only. The £500 Customer Saving is in addition to all other existing promotions. *0% APR Representative finance offer excludes KA+ and Fiesta and subject to status. Guarantees may be required. Exclusions apply. Ford Credit Finance Abbott House, Everard Close, St Albans AL1 2RW. MTR Marketing LTD Trading as Hills Ford is acting as a credit broker and is not a lender. Our Dealership introduces customers to a limited number of finance providers including Ford Credit Finance. We may receive a commission from the finance provider for the introduction. Offers not available in conjunction with any schemes or other offers. Vehicle price includes first registration fee and 12 months' road fund licence. Information correct at time of going to print. Model shots shown are for illustration purposes only Retail only. Details correct at time of going to print. Subject to availability. Contact us for full terms and conditions. E&OE.



AVAILABLE FROM
AEG MOTORHOMES
BIRMINGHAM STREET,
STOURBRIDGE, DY8 1JE
01384 848439
WWW.AEGMOTORHOMES.CO.UK

The winning team at AEG Motorhomes in Stourbridge

Award-winning dealership

AEG Motorhomes in Stourbridge is an award-winner.

The company is the Swift Dealer of the Year 2017.

"In 2010, our MD, Jason Pickerill introduced the Swift motorhome franchise to the All Electric Garages Group," said a spokesman.

"As a child Jason enjoyed many family holidays venturing around the UK coast in his family's Swift caravan. Jason and his wife Beverly (who also works for AEG) also enjoyed many family holidays in their Swift caravan and motorhome with their two daughters. So when the opportunity came along to buy and

sell motorhomes within a company for who he had worked for over 25 years, Jason was very excited for this new adventure.

"The business began to grow organically and then really started to evolve when the company moved to our large facility in Stourbridge in 2012. Fast forward five years later, and we are proud to announce that AEG Motorhomes has won Swift Dealer of the Year 2017!

"An achievement we are most proud of, as it highlights that not only hard work and dedication provides results, but success also demands a profound passion in the product and trust in the

team around you. Well done to the AEG Team, this award proves that we are the best in the business for buying, selling and repairing motorhomes. From small mechanical repairs to major services, including caravan/motorhome habitation servicing - there's simply nothing we can't do! For all your motorhome requirements please get in touch with our team, including our new general manager, Mike Shuttleworth, sales manager, Lee Jinks, and aftersales manager Phil Bayley."

For more details view the latest offers, and all other information online at www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk

Caravan and Motorhome Club celebrates 110 years

The Caravan and Motorhome Club (formerly known as The Caravan Club) this year celebrates 110 years of inspiring people to get out on the open road in a caravan or motorhome and have adventures in the UK and abroad.

Founded in 1907 with a handful of members, the club has always aimed to bring people with a sense of adventure together and increase the popularity of touring holidays. The club may have evolved into Europe's biggest touring organisation over time, but those vital founding values are still very much at its heart.

Offering great value membership and representing more than one million caravan, motorhome and trailer tent users, the club operates the largest privately owned network of quality sites in the UK with a choice of some 3,000 destinations together with European and worldwide holidays.

The club was set up by J Harris Stone in London in 1907. Stone wanted to revitalise caravanning holidays as a popular pastime, taking his inspiration from the first purpose-built touring caravan, The Wanderer.

The club was built on the core values of bringing together people interested in 'vans as a pastime', improving and supplying suitable vans, arranging camping groups and preserving the pastime by publishing lists of campsites and books for its members. The club has witnessed many



Park up and enjoy views over the coastline

changes through its history. From the 1920s when the car replaced the horse, to caravans being enlisted to play their part in World War Two in the 1940s, it wasn't until the 1950s that British Caravanning really took off as a popular holiday choice. HRH Prince Philip has been the club's patron since 1952.

The club rebranded as the Caravan and Motorhome Club in February this year, acknowledging that fact that 40 per cent of its more than one million members are now motorhomers. For just £49 a year, members receive full access to club sites across the UK and abroad, and can enjoy savings on great days out, an extensive range of

discounts, member offers and tailor-made insurance.

As the Caravan and Motorhome Club has developed, so has its adventurous side. The club now offers members the chance stay in a caravan or motorhome on any type of holiday with sites located near ski resorts, near the beach or even at the top of a mountain.

Over 30 of the UK's most popular beaches have a club site nearby. The club has affiliate sites worldwide from the Emerald Isle to the mountains Austria. For those looking for some sunny adventures, sites on the Algarve or the Spanish coastline are in perfect locations to catch some rays.

**AEG MOTORHOME AWARDED
SWIFT DEALERSHIP
OF THE YEAR 2017**

**ORDER YOUR
NU 67 REG**

**WE BUY
QUALITY USED
MOTORHOMES
FOR CASH**



**Call us today
01384 848439**

Facebook: [aegmotorhomes](https://www.facebook.com/aegmotorhomes)
Web: www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk

AEG MOTORHOMES
Birmingham Street, Stourbridge, DY8 1JE

EVERY FRIDAY!

NewCar?

VIEW OUR VIDEO ROAD TESTS

WWW.EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

NEW CAR OFFERS

USED CAR DEALS

PRIVATE AND FROM THE TRADE!

NEW CAR REVIEWS & ROAD TESTS

Follow us on Twitter @drivetimeES

CHANGE UP A GEAR WITH **MOTURING** **Express & Star**



**NAT, LOUIS & JAY
KEEP DANCING . . .**

INSIDE

BRASSED OFF + TV GUIDE + PUZZLES + MORE

Offering a warm welcome



Managers Paul and Carol always ensure a warm welcome to customers both old and new at Blackheath's Shoulder of Mutton pub.

For all the sports fans they boast three large TV screens featuring all sports on Sky, BT and all BOX OFFICE Events not to mention AT THE RACES.

For those who like 'doing' rather than 'watching', there is the availability of the pool table and dart board.

Loyalty

The pub itself boasts a wide range of ciders, lagers, wines and spirits including four 'Real Ales' which they rotate weekly. Regulars very often enjoy ales such as Bathams, AJ Ales, Oakham, JHB, Stairway To Heaven and MA Pardoes Entire, plus many more!

The pub also run a loyalty scheme which means customers can get 10p back on their card for every pound they spend.

A pub spokesman added: "With a juke box and free WIFI to compliment the regular entertainment every Friday, customers cannot ask for much more from a local pub!"

SHOULDER OF MUTTON

65 Birmingham Road, Rowley Regis B65 0HS



LIVE

**ENTERTAINMENT
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

BT Sport
sky SPORTS

**BOX
NATION**

**Please Vote For Us
Express & Star
Pub of the Year
2017**

**Selection of
Real Ales including:**
Bathams,
Burton Bridge,
Enville, Holdens,
Wye Valley and
many more!

**SHOULDER OF MUTTON
LOYALTY CARD**



**JOIN OUR NEW
LOYALTY CARD
SCHEME**

**10p back for every
£1.00 spent
Ask inside for
more details**

Terms and conditions apply.
Card for illustration purposes only.

**OPENING FRIDAY
18TH AUGUST**



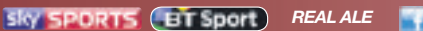
**THE NEW TALBOT
BAR & INDIAN
TAPAS RESTAURANT**



Not only will we serve outstanding food but we will have a range of great beer, wines and cocktails to enjoy.

**Wolverhampton Road South,
Quinton, Birmingham B32 2AY**

**PLEASE VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
BOOK NOW VIA FACEBOOK
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
NEWTALBOTQUINTON/
REAL ALE**



It's Strictly business for dancer Natalie

After working so hard to establish herself on Strictly Come Dancing, leaving was the hardest thing. Natalie Lowe said a fond farewell earlier this year, following her partnership with Olympic long jump champion Greg Rutherford, after seven happy series.

She'd also featured on Dancing With The Stars, in her native Australia, and knew it was time to go.

The muscular blonde dancer says: "I spoke to a very good friend of mine about wanting to leave the show. I really felt like this was the year that I had to make the difficult decision of leaving."

"My friend asked me what I wanted to do and I told him there were lots of exciting things in the future that I wanted to tackle."

Decision made, she set about working out her future. She planned to put her feet up for a few months then focus on a show she was producing at the end of the year. Her friend wasn't so sure.

"He had an idea. He was producing a show that he wanted me to be involved in. I said absolutely not. I told him that I was 99.9 per cent sure it would be a no. But he was persuasive and said the show, Rip It Up, was based in the 1950s. He'd seen a version and wanted to include dance in it."

"At first, I was sure I wouldn't do it but by the end of the conversation I was sure I would. I love that era and that music. I am a massive Elvis Presley fan. My mum and dad used to talk about going to dance nights on a Friday nights and leaving their house open and their car door open. It was a different world. I thought this would be the only chance that I could relive the era that I'm so fond of."

Before she knew it, Natalie had signed on the dotted line and agreed to star alongside Strictly Come Dancing champions Louis Smith MBE and Jay McGuiness in Rip It Up.

Rip It Up promises to bring the fabulous soundtrack of the 1950's to life in an explosion of song and dance that will see Natalie, Jay and Louis swing, bop, jitterbug, lindy hop, jive and ballroom their way through the greatest songs from the greatest decade of music; from romantic ballads and crooner classics to many of the era's defining pop and rock'n'roll hits.

AMAZING

She was drawn to the production by the chance to work with Louis and Jay.

"Louis is already a good friend, after winning the show with Flavia. And Jay did that amazing dance with Aliona. So I thought the three of us would be an amazing combination."

"I love being on tour and the fact that we go to London Palladium is great. The whole show will be epic and amazing and full-on. There's lots of jives and full-on dances."

Natalie has spent much of her life on the road. She was with a touring show for five years, dancing around the world. "It never really ended. That was our job, day in and day out. We would do it for eight months of the year and I loved it. So if I can survive that, I can do anything."

"Taking two months out of my life to do something that I love with a passion is a privilege. I'm so excited to be dancing – I'm definitely not hanging the towel up."

Moving on so quickly and starring in theatres throughout autumn means she won't have time to miss Strictly. "It'll soften the blow. If I wasn't working, I'd be there in front of the TV with the Kleenex, weeping."

"But I think you can get too safe, too samey in your world. Something inside me wants to do more, and not just dance. I've been wanting to start up my own company for about 10 years. I've got other interests outside of dance. I'm not going to go and start playing baseball. But I want to develop new projects and be creative."

"I loved Strictly. It's the most amazing show in the

Keep dancing – Natalie stars with Louis Smith and Jay McGuiness



whole wide world. But now I need to start challenging myself as a choreographer, director, producer – I need to start bringing shows to life without necessarily being in them."

Natalie says the reaction from the public is one of the most exciting experiences of Strictly – though she seldom realised how popular the show was until the end of each series. While filming was taking place, she was too busy working to notice.

"You live, breathe, sleep and dance Strictly. You are up from August until the end of the year. In August, it's a whole month of professional routines to get the show looking as amazing as possible. Then we have three weeks with our celebrity after the launch. So we've done two-and-a-half months before it comes to life."

"Then we're dancing with our partners six to 10 hours a day. We'll come home, research music or have to do a solo performance. On average, I'd work a 14-16-hour day. I lived on four to six hours sleep per night during Strictly."

You have to and you need to if you want to do well. That's the sacrifice you have to make. You have to come up with ideas and storyboards. You have to think about lighting, costume, music and what feels right. Then you have to teach a celebrity. Then there's interviews. But the public – you don't realise how much they are loving you. It's just home, studio, BBC, studio, home."

"It's been the most amazing, educational journey of my whole, entire career. We start really good friends and always bump into each other."

She remains in touch with the guys she danced with and believes they're all incredible in different ways.

"But it's time to move on." It's time to Rip It Up.

● Natalie brings her new show to Birmingham Symphony Hall on September 19; Aston Hall in Wrexham on September 21; and Theatre Severn in Shrewsbury on September 22. Tickets still on sale

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

Picket line with Shane, played by Ash Matthews



Brassed Off – but the Grand is anything but

FOR the first time in almost 40 years, the Grand Theatre will produce a full-scale production in house. And it is proving an exciting time for the Wolverhampton theatre.

Jeffrey Holland will play ex-miner and veteran conductor of Grimley Band, Danny in Brassed Off, from Wednesday August 23-Saturday, September 2.

Other casting includes Christopher Connel who will play Phil, Miriam Grace Edwards as Sandra, Ash Matthews as Shane, Clara Darcy as Gloria and Eddy Massarella will play Andy.

They will be joined by local actors Tim Jones as Harry, Greg Yates as Jim, Susie Wilcox as Vera and Donna Heaslip as Rita. Sharing the role of Craig will be Henry Hart, Samuel Allen Cooper and Alexander Hogg. Sharing the role of Melody will be Lydia Hart, Mollie Cotterill and Catherine Richmond-Maud.

With the band – Jeffrey Holland as Danny



Miriam Grace Edwards who plays Sandra



Grand Theatre Press & PR Manager Scott Bird said, "Meeting our cast for the first time was a very special moment. We're all working towards a new chapter in Grand Theatre history."

"The opportunity to produce our own drama production and have incredibly talented local actors and band members working with well-respected professional actors will no doubt create something very unique."

Jeffrey Holland (Danny) is probably best known for his portrayal of Spike in BBC TV's Hi-De-Hi, the stuffy footman 'James Twelveteeth' in all four series of the hugely successful You Rang M'Lord? and more recently as Mr Cecil Parkin the stationmaster in Oh, Dr. Beeching! Born in Walsall Jeffrey trained in Birmingham and began his career with four and a half years in repertory at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry where he eventually finished up as leading character man. His theatre work is extensive and includes seasons at the Chichester Festival Theatre and Edinburgh Festival.

Brassed Off is written by Paul Allen, adapted from the screenplay by Mark Herman. It's 1994; and Danny's lifelong ambition to lead Grimley Colliery Band to the National Brass Band Competition at the Royal Albert Hall looks like it might finally happen. But as Grimley pit faces closure, the future looks bleak as the town is thrown into conflict.

HOPE

Flugelhorn player Gloria arrives in town bringing with her a renewed sense of hope and a touch of romance, but no-one knows who she's really playing for...

Brassed Off is produced by Wolverhampton Grand Theatre in association with talking Scarlet. It will be directed by Gareth Tudor Price, formerly Artistic Director of Hull Truck Theatre. Set and costume design is by John Brooking. Lighting design for the production is by Anthony Aston.

The first drama to be produced by the theatre will feature a community cast who will appear in a variety of speaking and non-speaking roles alongside high-profile professional actors.

There will also be a full brass band who will form an integral part of the production.

ISTANBUL TURKISH RESTAURANT

Lunch Special Available 3.00 - 6.00

3 Course Meal £9.90

(Choice of Cold Starter or Hot Starter)

••• Main Courses and Desserts •••

COLD STARTER

HUMMUS

Blend of chickpeas, tahini, hint of garlic, olive oil and lemon juice

TARAMA SALAD

Freshly prepared whipped cod roe, garlic, olive oil and lemon juice

CACIK (TZATZIKI)

A mixture of homemade yoghurt, cucumber, dry mint dill, garlic and olive oil

PANCAR SALATA PEYNIRLI

(BEETROOT SALAD WITH CHEESE)

Pickled beetroot, coriander, garlic, olive oil, feta cheese and mint

YOGURTLU PATLICAN

(AUBERGINE WITH YOGHURT)

Aubergine baked in our clay oven, prepared with fresh garlic, herbs, olive oil and yoghurt

SAKSUKA

Smoked aubergine with parsley, mixed pepper, onions and tomatoes

SARMA (STUFFED LEAVES)

Onions, rice, pine nuts, mixed spices, olive oil and vine leaves

HOT STARTER

SUCUK (GARLIC SAUSAGE)

Grilled Turkish Sausages

FALAFEL

Crushed broad beans, chickpeas, mixed peppers, onions, celery, coriander, garlic and herbs (deep fried)

GARLIC MUSHROOMS

Mushrooms cooked in tomato and garlic sauce with fresh cream

BOREK (FILO PASTRY)

Filo pastry filled feta cheese, parsley and baby spinach

MAIN COURSES / GRILL

MEAT MOUSSAKA

Sliced aubergine, minced meat, potatoes courgettes topped with cheese sauce, served with rice and salad

LAMB SAUTE

Cubes of lamb cooked with mixed peppers, mushrooms, onions, tomatoes and herbs served with rice

CHICKEN SAUTE

Cubes of chicken breast cooked with red peppers, green peppers, mushrooms, onions, tomatoes and herbs served with rice

KEBABS

Choice of following kebabs

CHICKEN SHISH

Adana Kofte, Chicken Kofte

CHICKEN WINGS

SALMON

Marinated salmon steak grilled on charcoal, served with salad and chips

CHICKEN PASTA

Mushrooms, mixed peppers, courgette with creamy sauce

DESSERTS

BAKLAVA

or

SUTLAC (RICE PUDDING)

Istanbul Restaurant has a charcoal grill that provides freshly grilled meat and fish dishes. It has a team of chefs with a combined cooking experience of over 15 years. The takeaway service is unique, providing exquisite cuisines like the 'dining experience'.

If you have any allergies, please mention this to the staff.

Wraps Meal

Chicken Wrap

Adana Wrap

Chicken Shish Wrap

Served with chips and drink

£6.00

Eat In or Collection

(3.00pm 'til 6.00pm)

185 High Street, Rowley Regis, B65 0DU

Tel: 0121 6799 721



Sunbeach Holiday Park, Llwyngwrl, Gwynedd, Wales, LL37 2QQ

t: 01341 250263

e: sunbeach@allenscaravans.com



Massive Complex Refurb with Indoor Pool & Splash Area, Soft Play, Games Room, Adventure Playground, Shop, Restaurant and Bar.



Also on Park is a Boat Park, Own Beach and it's Open 11 Months

www.AllensCaravans.com

CHOICE



Pål Sverre Valheim Hagen

Valkyrien (BBC2, 10pm)
New series. Norwegian drama about a surgeon who refuses to accept that his terminally ill wife cannot be saved, and takes matters into his own hands. With the aid of an unhinged former patient, he turns a disused bunker underneath an underground station into his own illegal clinic where he can treat his comatose wife himself. However, his search for an elusive cure requires money, so he resorts to treating people who cannot seek medical help through official channels, from refugees to criminal gangs. In Norwegian. Full series available online.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** BBC News. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Continent. (R) **3.00** Flog It! (R) **4.00** Super Small Animals. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.
6.00 **Countryfile**. Anita Rani and Sean Fletcher present an episode exploring Dartmoor. Anita takes a trip along a trail that connects local artists and crafts people, meeting a blacksmith and learning to spin wool using traditional methods, while Sean investigates how unwanted Dartmoor pony foals that would normally be culled at birth can instead be used in therapy for people with learning difficulties.
7.00 **Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould investigate the complex and controversial stories surrounding the origins of supposedly valuable works of art. (R)
8.00 **World Athletics Championships 2017**. Gabby Logan presents further coverage of the 10th and concluding evening at The London Stadium in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, featuring the finals of four more events. Asbel Kibrop and Caster Semenya will be among the favourites in the respective men's 1500m and women's 800m finals, before attention switches to the men's and women's 4x400m relays, both of which Great Britain will be hopeful of winning medals in should they be involved. With commentary by Steve Cram, Brendan Foster, Andrew Cotter and Steve Backley, and analysis from Michael Johnson, Denise Lewis and Colin Jackson.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 Match of the Day 2.
11.30 **Brendan Foster: A Life in Athletics**. An insight into the career of the broadcaster and former athlete, who won gold as a long distance runner at the European Championships and Commonwealth Games in the 1970s. (R)
12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.20 BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.05** The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.50** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.50** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **11.15** Nadiya's British Food Adventure. (R) **11.45** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** World Athletics Championships 2017. Coverage of day 10. **4.30** Britain's Ancient Capital: Secrets of Orkney. (R) **5.30** Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge. (R)
6.30 **World Athletics Championships 2017**. Gabby Logan presents coverage of the 10th and concluding evening at The London Stadium in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Great Britain's Robbie Grabarz and Laura Muir will hope to be involved in the respective high jump and 5,000m finals, and medals are also decided in the women's discus. With commentary by Steve Cram, Brendan Foster, Andrew Cotter and Steve Backley, and analysis from Michael Johnson, Denise Lewis and Colin Jackson. Coverage continues on BBC1.
8.00 **Secrets of Silicon Valley**. Part two of two. Jamie Bartlett investigates the impact of technology on democracy, revealing how aspects of social media designed to benefit the advertising industry by gathering personal data about users can be used to influence voters and spread misinformation. Featuring contributions from a key insider on Donald Trump's presidential campaign.
9.00 **North Korea: Murder in the Family**. Documentary examining the murder of the North Korean dictator's half-brother Kim Jong-nam at Kuala Lumpur airport. The programme examines the activities of North Korean secret agents at the airport on the day of the killing, and reports on a powerful international business network that has allowed the Kim dynasty to remain in power for nearly 70 years.
10.00 **Golf: USPGA Championship**. Eilidh Barbour presents live coverage of the closing stages of day four at the fourth and final Major of the year, held at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina. Live coverage begins on the interactive service at 7.00pm.
12.15 **Film: The Body**. (2012) **2.00** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Sooty. (R) **6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.55** Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Oddbods. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Ninjago: Rebooted. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** James Martin's French Adventure. (R) **1.00** Rebound. (R) **2.00** Women's Rugby World Cup 2017. England v Italy (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.45** Bear Grylls Survival School. (R) **5.10** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **6.10** **Regional Programme**: Weather.
6.15 **ITV News**: Weather.
6.30 **The Chase Celebrity Special**. Bradley Walsh presents as celebrity contestants Melanie Sykes, Heather Small, Andrew Castle and Graeme Le Saux pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught.
7.30 **Film: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1**. (2010) The dark lord Voldemort rises to ultimate power over the magical world, so the teenage wizard and his friends set out on a mission to find the magical horcruxes - artefacts containing parts of the evil wizard's soul that hold the key to destroying him. The first half of the two-part conclusion to the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint.
10.15 **ITV News**: Weather.
10.35 **Judge Rinder's Crime Stories**. Barrister Robert Rinder examines the UK's biggest ever drugs bust and a robbery in a small Kent town in which £53million was stolen. Last in the series. (R)
11.35 **Take Me Out**. An account manager from Leeds, a housing executive from Belfast, a professional BMX rider from Portsmouth and an IT manager from Exeter try to impress 30 women and win a date. (R)
12.45 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Jamie's Comfort Food. (R) **6.15** Last Man Standing. **6.40** Last Man Standing. **7.05** Last Man Standing. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** **Film: Volcano**. (1997) Disaster thriller, starring Tommy Lee Jones. **4.35** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. (R) **5.35** Homes by the Med.
6.30 **Channel 4 News**.
7.00 **Film: Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb**. (2014) Premiere. Nightwatchman Larry notices that the living exhibits of his museum are behaving strangely. He discovers that the magical artefact that brings them to life is damaged, so he and his friends travel to London's Natural History Museum to find a way to restore it. Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Ben Stiller, Rebel Wilson and Robin Williams in his final film role.
9.00 **Valkyrien**. New series. Norwegian drama about a surgeon who refuses to accept that his terminally ill wife cannot be saved, and takes matters into his own hands. With the aid of an unhinged former patient, he turns a disused bunker underneath an underground station into his own illegal clinic where he can treat his comatose wife himself. However, his search for an elusive cure requires money, so he resorts to treating people who cannot seek medical help through official channels, from refugees to criminal gangs. In Norwegian. Full series available online.
10.00 **Gogglebox: The Best Bits**. The best and funniest moments from the recent series, including armchair TV reviews of Culinary Genius, Britain's Got Talent, Line of Duty and Cruising with Jane McDonald. (R)
11.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown**. Regular team captain Sean Lock and guest captain Sarah Millican are joined by Roisin Conaty and Rhod Gilbert, while David O'Doherty presides in Dictionary Corner. (R)
12.05 **Film: Ouija**. (2014) **1.35** 60 Days in Jail. (R) **2.30** Gillette World Sport. **2.55** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **3.20** Mobil 1 The Grid. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Poppy Cat. **6.10** Little Princess. (R) **6.25** Mr Men. (R) **6.35** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.55** Wissper. (R) **7.05** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.15** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.25** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.20** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.35** Floogals. (R) **8.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.05** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.15** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.30** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.40** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.25** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.55** **Film: Haunted Honeymoon**. (1986) **1.30** Make You Laugh Out Loud. **2.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **3.00** Disobedient Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **4.00** Dads Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **5.00** Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R)
6.00 **Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud**. Compilation of internet videos, including cats playing musical instruments, dressed in costumes and riding on vacuum cleaners. Narrated by Iain Lee, with commentary by Susan Calman. (R)
6.55 **5 News Weekend**.
7.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away**. Agents Paul and Steve face a moral dilemma in south London, when they find out the tenant they have been instructed to evict is on his way to a funeral. (R)
8.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away**. In east London, High Court Enforcement Agents Paul and Phil are involved in a brotherly eviction, while in south Wales, Stewart and Elmore chase a debt owed by a working mum. (R)
8.55 **5 News Weekend**.
9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother**. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
10.05 **Autopsy: Cory Monteith**. The death of the Glee star.
11.05 **Film: The Boy Next Door**. (2008) A novelist becomes the prime suspect when her next door neighbour is murdered, so decides to investigate the case herself. Thriller, with Dina Meyer and Woody Jeffreys.
12.40 Criminals: Caught on Camera. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **3.10** Cat 8. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 BBC Proms 2017 **9.20** John Denver at Wembley Arena **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Black Roses: The Killing of Sophie Lancaster **11.15** Return to Beljemanland **12.15** The Man Who Fought the Planners: The Story of Ian Nairn **1.15** Storyville: Russia's Toughest Prison - The Condemned **2.35** How Quizzing Got Cool: TV's Brains of Britain **3.35** Close
ITV2
11.50 Ninja Warrior UK **12.50** Mr Bean **1.55** You've Been Framed! **Gold 2.25** **Film: Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium** (2007) **3.25** FYI Daily **3.30** **Film: Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium** (2007) **4.20** **Film: St Trinian's** (2007) **5.25** FYI Daily **5.30** **Film: St Trinian's** (2007) **6.15** **Film: Hotel Transylvania** (2012) **7.15** FYI Daily **7.20** **Film: Hotel Transylvania** (2012) **8.00** **Film: Crazy, Stupid, Love** (2011) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** **Film: Crazy, Stupid, Love** (2011) **10.20** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad! **1.15** The Cleveland Show **2.10** The Vamps: The Hot Desk **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
11.35 The Darling Buds of May **12.40** Heidi **2.55** Wycliffe **4.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Law & Order: UK **12.00** Wire in the Blood **2.00** Lewis **3.40** Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen
ITV4
11.00 Live British Touring Car Championship. Round seven from Knockhill. **6.15** Hat-Trick Heroes **6.30** Storage Wars **7.00** World Series of Darts: Auckland **11.00** **Film: American History X** (1998) **12.15** **Film: American History X** (1998) **1.25** BRDC Formula 3 Championship Highlights **2.30** Tommy Cooper **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.00 Made in Chelsea: Ibiza **12.05** **Film: Escape from Planet Earth** (2013) **1.50** Rude (ish) Tube Shorts **2.00** Kevin Can Wait **2.30** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** **Film: Beautiful Creatures** (2013) **10.25** Don't Tell the Bride **11.30** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **12.35** Body Fixers **1.40** Gogglebox **2.25** Rude Tube **3.45** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 Thunderbirds Are Go! (1966) **1.00** Picture Perfect (1997) **3.00** Dragonball Evolution (2009) **4.40** Shrek (2001) **6.25** The Way Back (2010) **9.00** The Heat (2013) **11.20** Vertigo (1958) **1.55** Hitchcock/Truffaut (2015) **3.40** Close



THE ONLY READ FOR REAL FANS
EVERY MONDAY

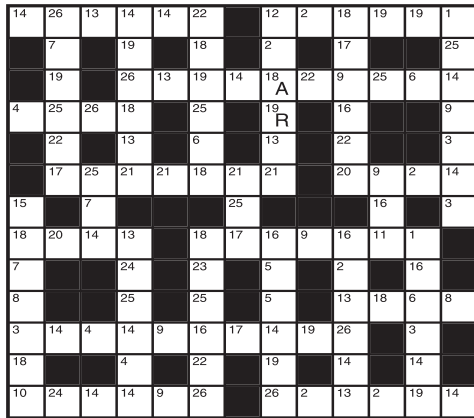
To advertise in final whistle call our experienced
sales team on 01902 31 31 31

BRAIN GYM

No.442

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
K	H	X	E	G	R	Q	J	Y	C	A	T	L
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	O	F	D	S	M	U	I	N	B	Z	W	V

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

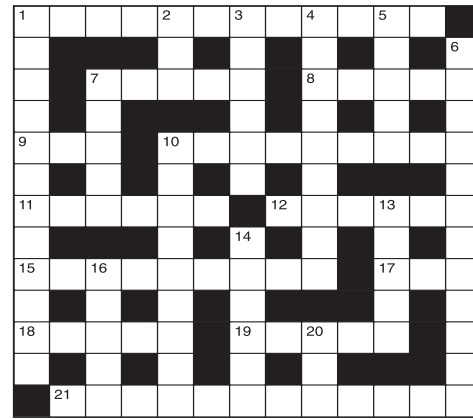
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- It's dated even before use in the office (4,8)
- Prepared to explode - or not to explode (5)
- Got us to play zest (5)
- Manage a chicken enclosure (3)
- Well, no one wants it! (9)
- Stops, we hear, for spells of recreation (6)
- Temporarily stop work (3,3)
- A roundabout way to come in (9)
- Runner in a vigorous kind of winter sport (3)
- Famous lover who had capital and nothing more (5)
- The listener gets two points and wins (5)
- Greek caterin' is a form of extortion! (12)

Down

- Marketing agents for car engine components (12)
- A company's plant (3)
- Firemen will use it, though it may ruin the hose (6)
- Right name for a bad dream (9)
- Possibly lies under a part of the church (5)
- Existing expenditure (4,2,6)
- Pale chap a thief may turn to (5)
- Shopkeepers must - shoplifters do (4,5)
- Well-equipped place for caravans en route (5)
- Straightforward form of credit (6)
- Dance from Burma (5)
- The French way to feel regret (3)



Quick Clues:

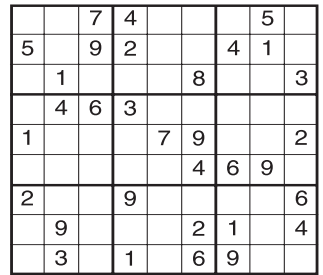
Across

- Remembrance (12)
- Defraud (5)
- Backbone (5)
- Vegetable (3)
- Short pistol (9)
- Zest (6)
- Lax (6)
- Slowcoaches (9)
- Purpose (3)
- Senior (5)
- Boundary (5)
- Festivities (12)

Down

- Convalescence (12)
- Fib (3)
- Whole (6)
- Irritability (9)
- Due (5)
- Light meal (12)
- Creep (5)
- Conversation (9)
- Unfit (5)
- Stableman (6)
- Crest (5)
- Rug (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3	4	9	5	6	1	2	8	7
8	6	7	2	9	4	1	3	5
7	3	8	6	5	2	9	1	4
9	1	2	7	4	3	8	5	6
4	5	6	9	1	8	3	7	2
5	9	1	8	2	6	7	4	3
2	7	4	1	3	5	9	8	6
6	8	3	4	7	9	5	2	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Escorts; 8 Loaded; 9 Oratory; 10 Ticked; 11 Ice-cap; 12 Opposing; 18 Set about; 20 Cannot; 21 Ailing; 22 Recount; 23 Charge; 24 Stamped. Down: 1 Elation; 2 Madcaps; 3 Levels; 5 Straight; 6 Outset; 7 Tartan; 13 Instance; 14 Topiary; 15 Stagger; 16 Latent; 17 Inform; 19 Alight.
QUICK - Across: 4 Acolyte; 8 Inured; 9 Uncanny; 10 Raisin; 11 Relief; 12 Fracture; 18 Heedless; 20 Apiece; 21 Inside; 22 Believe; 23 Desist; 24 Fragile. Down: 1 Midriff; 2 Musical; 3 Depict; 5 Concrete; 6 Liable; 7 Tender; 13 Upheaval; 14 Deficit; 15 Aspects; 16 Appear; 17 Seeing; 19 Dinner.

Quiz

- The Ural Mountains form part of the boundary between which two continents?
- What type of creature is a sand hopper?
- In which soap did Herman's Hermits' Peter Noone briefly appear?
- Which US author's debut novel was The Naked and the Dead?
- Which actor was the father of Sarah Siddons?
- What do we call the extinct African volcano Kirinyaga?
- To whom was Alastair Campbell Press Secretary until 2000?
- What nationality was dancer Dame Ninette de Valois?
- Which city was at the centre of the 1995 Japanese earthquake?
- Who designed Marble Arch?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Pacific; 2 Monkey; 3 Jainism; 4 Switzerland; 5 Australia; 6 Cavy; 7 Truro; 8 Parsnip; 9 Richard Gordon; 10 Precious metals and gems.

Niner: SOLEMNITY

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7394
85821
176294

gives a Biblical character,
gives a Biblical character,
gives a Jewish prophet.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

FANTASTIC CARVERY 7 DAYS A WEEK

They always say never judge a book by its cover so we decided to check out The Park Lane Tavern in Colley Gate, and I have to say what was on offer in there was a total surprise.



It serves a carvery option 7 days a week from midday which consists of a choice of 4 meats, turkey, beef, pork and gammon and accompanied by stuffing, Yorkshire puddings and up to 12 vegetables, topped off with what they call their "secret recipe gravy" known also as what mother used to make! All this for just £4.99 for a lunchtime meal or £5.99 evenings and Saturdays and £7.99 for Sunday lunch represents extremely good value by today's standards.

They also don't forget their mini diners with 'Kids Eat Free' Monday to Saturday between 3pm and 6pm and during school holidays it's All Day Monday to Saturday.

But it doesn't stop there they also have a full main menu consisting of the classic pub favourites such as steaks, mixed grills, burgers and fish and chips, where the fish would not be out of place in any issue of 'Moby Dick'. To finish is there very tempting dessert menu, that's if you have room after the size of meals you get at The Park Lane Tavern.

Then if that's not enough choice for you you can also choose for the breakfast which is served Friday, Saturday and Sunday 08.30am until 11.00am. Their breakfast is a buffet style 'All you can eat' with enough choice to satisfy any diner from eggs 2 ways, bacon, sausage, mushrooms, baked beans, hash browns, black pudding, grilled fresh tomatoes, toast & fried bread. There's even



jam for your toast if you still not full after all that.

Half Price Monday

They also host special evenings like their 'Half Price Monday' which has proven to be very popular, and why not, already reasonably priced selected main meals off their main menu (which includes steaks) at half price served between 5pm and 8pm every Monday. Also their psychic evenings where for £15 you get a reading from a medium and a carvery, for those believers amongst you that must be a bargain.

You get a very friendly feeling when you enter The Park Lane Tavern and that's mostly down to the staff. Happy to see you and always keen to help. They have a lot of regular customers and it's been known for a customer's drink to be poured and waiting for them before they reach the bar, you don't see that at many places nowadays.

There are no airs or graces at The Park Lane Tavern, you get delicious food at great prices served by happy staff in a comfortable environment. No wonder this place has people returning time after time.

Take my advice – its' time to unwind

HAVE a facial once a month and get help in the house. Those were the words of wisdom given to TV presenter Anne Robinson by her mother when she got married.

Now maybe the Weakest Link ice queen has taken her facial work to another level, but as pieces of advice go her mother had it pretty much bang on.

With our busy lives, at work and at play, we all need to take a little time out every now and again for a bit of pampering and tranquility. And what better therapy is there for a weary body and soul than a day of relaxation, calm and rejuvenating beauty treatments at a spa. Especially if you go with a friend or family member for some real quality time.

Virtually on our doorstep here is the Telford Hotel & Golf Resort nestled in 170 acres of Shropshire countryside with panoramic views of the Ironbridge Gorge.

RENOVATED

The recently renovated health club has an incredible indoor swimming pool with an abundance of beds, including the heavenly- heated loungers, a sauna and a steam room, six spa treatment rooms and a serene relaxation room.

Guests can stay in the hotel for a nice spa break or there are very reasonable spa day packages offered.

I opted for a sneaky away day and this included use of all the facilities – even the gym if you are so inclined – use of robes, slippers and towels, and what was said to be a 'light lunch' but in fact included soup, a choice of wraps, salad and a dessert options. I highly recommend the lemon cheesecake.

You can enjoy all of this for just £39 a person – a small price to pay for the health benefits it brings and a day well spent. Though while enjoying the facilities

Take time out to enjoy
Telford Hotel Spa



Just lie back, close your
eyes and relax – bliss!



most guests want to experience a treatment or two to really ease those muscles, refresh the skin and maybe glam up a little. We tried out the new ESPA Personalised Express Facial. Any facial is a bit of self indulgence but this really does feel like some luxury pampering – and it is tailored just for you.

The beauty therapist first uses a SkinVision lamp which, though I had to have my eyes closed, seems to pass a blue light over your face to detect your real skin type and any problem areas. Then the therapist can use the various creams and ointments that best suit you.

My skin was confirmed as combination skin and she showed me where there were areas of dryness and 'congestion' – I think this meant blackheads!

Armed with this information I underwent a thorough cleanse, tone, moisturising and a soothing face mask. This was made all the more relaxing as it was accompanied by a head and shoulders massage.

Lying in a semi-comatose state in the darkened room, tranquil music playing in the background, and with my constricted muscles turning to jelly, the thought passed through my mind that life really does not get any better

than this. And 55 minutes later it seemed to have done the trick – when I left the treatment room my skin felt softer and a little more 'elasticity', not the usual dry and taut complexion of a tired, working mother.

One of the spa packages is the Little Slice of Heaven which includes all of the facilities and lunch but also four 25-minute treatments such as a nail file and polish, facial, pedicure and back, neck and shoulder massage.

With all this on offer at such good value surely we can all think about a once-a-month lift. Good advice indeed.

DIANE DAVIES

StarReader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind



Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen and Stourbridge*

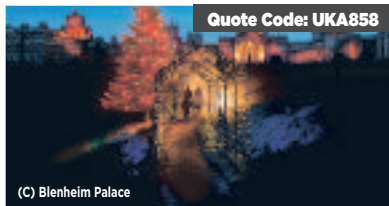
*Please note: Not all pick up points are available on all breaks.

Your Chronicle

in association with
Omega
The Travel Association

CHRISTMAS AT BLENHEIM & BATH'S FESTIVE MARKET

Quote Code: UKA858



(C) Blenheim Palace

Departing Saturday 9 December 2017

Blenheim at Christmas is a marvel not to miss, and the after-dark landscape lights are an other-worldly delight. Join us for all this, plus a day at Bath's Christmas Market along with return travel, hotel and English breakfast.

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Reading/Wiltshire area hotel with full English breakfast
- ✓ Visit to Bath Christmas Market
- ✓ Visit and admission to Blenheim Palace (value £24.90)

2 days, by coach

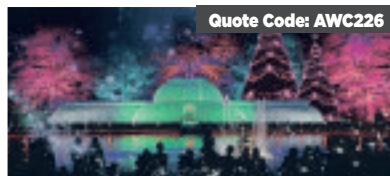
only **£119**.95pp

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/UKA858

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

CHRISTMAS AT KEW GARDENS AND LONDON

Quote Code: AWC226



Saturday departures,
2 & 16 December 2017

See Kew's winter landscape at night as an enchanting Illuminated Trail of music and lights leads you round the Gardens as you have never seen them before...

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star hotel within 30 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ Timed admission ticket to the Kew Gardens Illuminated Trail
- ✓ Free shopping time in central London on Sunday

2 days, by coach

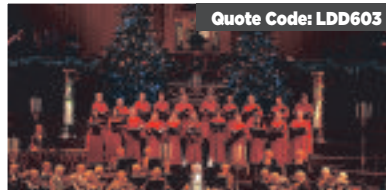
only **£129**.95pp

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/AWC226

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT at the Royal Albert Hall

Quote Code: LDD603



Departing Saturday 16 December 2017

Take time out in the final countdown to Christmas to enjoy this candle-lit concert of popular carols, classical pieces and readings, all exquisitely staged in 18th-century costume. This great-value break also includes free time for last-minute gift shopping..

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star hotel within 30 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ A Circle ticket (face value £26.47) for the Saturday evening performance of Carols by Candlelight (upgrades available)
- ✓ Return coach transfer to the Royal Albert Hall
- ✓ Free time in London on Sunday

2 days, by coach

only **£149**.95pp

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/LDD603

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

Quote Code: NUA254

LONDON'S WINTER WONDERLAND



Saturday departures,
18 November & 16 December 2017

London's Hyde Park transforms this November and December into a dazzling spectacle of sparkle, with 200+ Christmas Market stalls, ice rink, ice kingdom, carousels, Big Wheel, and even a cocktail bar made of ice.

Price Includes...

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ Return transfer from hotel to Hyde Park
- ✓ Free time in London on Sunday

2 days, by coach

only **£99**.95pp

View product online at
www.omega-holidays.com/NUA254

Single room supplements £30pp. Subject to availability.

For more information
or to book, please call: **01902 902165**

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00
SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00

Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782.



OmegaHols



@OmegaHols



OmegaHols



TOP: Winners from the first awards

MIDDLE: Ambassador of the Year Greg Hedges and Watchman V

RIGHT: Louis Johnson, took the title of Young Star



Chance to reward that special person

DO you know someone who deserves a Great Big Thank You? Is it about time they received recognition for all their hard work in a glittering ceremony attended by celebrities from across the region?

Perhaps it's the person you always turn to for advice in your community, someone who supports you and always goes the extra mile to help? Maybe they have helped your area to improve and flourish against the odds? Are they your community champion?

Maybe they are just someone who is known by everyone as being someone you can trust to do the best for you and where you live? Are they always giving up their time to help? Could they be crowned 'Volunteer of the Year'?

Or maybe you know someone who has done their utmost to promote their local roots, someone who encourages people to think more positively about the West Midlands and deserves to be crowned 'Ambassador of the Year'?

Strived

You may know someone special who, even though they're so young, has strived to achieve their goals in the last 12 months, working hard in their chosen hobby or sport to triumph against the adversity of an illness or long-term condition? Do you think they deserve the 'Young Star Award'?

There might be someone you know who happily gives up their time to raise funds for a cause close to their heart. Whether adult or child, this individual leads by example making an extra effort to support others who are less fortunate than themselves. Are they your Fundraiser of the Year?

Do you know a teacher who goes beyond the call of duty to do the very best for their



The voice of Strictly, Alan Dedicoat, hosted the last event

students, or a learner who puts in the extra hours to achieve?

Is there someone who has worked tirelessly to change their life, despite obstacles stacked against them? Have they made their way through a difficult time in the last 12 months and made a fresh start? Could they win the 'Fresh Start Award'?

Whatever they do, we want to hear about them from you. Tell us why this person is so

special and nominate them for one of the Express & Star's prestigious Great Big Thank You Awards – which will bring them the recognition they deserve.

They will also have the opportunity to meet some of the most well-known faces of the region in a ceremony aimed exclusively at their achievements.

The sparkling ceremony will take place early next year.

SPONSORS OF AWARDS

The Grand Theatre: Ambassador of the Year

A person who has done the most to promote their Black Country and Staffordshire roots within their chosen charity, team or hobby.

NatWest: Community Champion(s)

Someone who has served or inspired others or performed in an exceptional way, giving something back to their community.

whg: Fresh Start Award

Whatever life has thrown at this individual, they will not only have survived but now be making a contribution to their community.

HomeServe: Fundraiser of the Year

There are often personal reasons why individuals of all ages put effort into raising money for a good cause. This award is not about the amount raised but the commitment involved.

The University of Wolverhampton: Learner Award

Someone who has overcome obstacles and moved their life forward, an achiever who has learned new skills and developed their knowledge in their chosen field.

City of Wolverhampton Council: Teacher of the Year

A teacher who inspires their pupils, encourages them to enjoy learning and does whatever they can to help them achieve their potential.

Express & Star: Volunteer of the Year

This award will go to an individual who regularly puts others before themselves and is generous with their time to support an individual or group.

Signal 107: Young Star Award

Person, aged 16 or under, who has gone above and beyond in achieving their goals in the past 12 months.

WHO DO YOU THINK DESERVES A GREAT BIG THANK YOU?
WE WANT TO KNOW!



How to nominate

If you know someone or a group of people who you think deserve to be considered for an award, simply complete the form opposite. For more information on each award category visit the website starthankyou.expressandstar.co.uk.

If you're not sure which category is the most suitable, don't worry, the judges will decide where they best belong.

Nominees should live or work in the Black Country or south Staffordshire, i.e. within the circulation area of the Express & Star.

What happens next?

A panel of judges will decide who goes through to the next round. The finalists, with a write-up about each of them, will be featured in the Express & Star and online. Readers can then vote for who they think deserves to win by cutting out special tokens printed in the paper which will appear from October 19 until November 18. The winner in each category will be the person with the most votes.

The chosen finalists, along with selected guests, will be invited to an awards evening in the New Year, when the winners will be announced.

Send your submission to:

The Editor
The Great Big Thank You Awards
Express & Star
Queen Street
Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

For details and to nominate online go to starthankyou.expressandstar.co.uk

If you have any questions please call the promotions team on **01902 319360**

Closing date for entries is 12 noon, Monday, August 21, 2017. Proposers must be aged 18 or over. All nominees' contact information must be on an official nomination form, either in print (and signed by the proposer) or online. You should tell your nominee that you are putting their name forward. If the nominee is under the age of 16, then you must inform their parent/guardian, whose signature will be required for the print form or if nominating online, selecting the tick box on the electronic form to indicate you have done so. Employees and their immediate relatives of the MNA group of companies and campaign sponsors are not permitted to nominate in their own category. Nominees should be living or working in the Black Country/south Staffordshire, reflecting the Express & Star circulation area. If making more than one nomination, please use separate forms. All proposers and nominees must be prepared to take part in any relevant publicity including photographic and video coverage in print and online. Information (excluding contact details) on the person you are nominating will be used in in-paper and online. The winner of each category will receive a prize tailored to them. There is no cash or prize alternative. If there is a voting tie in any category, a judging panel will choose the outright winner. The Editor's decision is final.

NOMINATION FORM

Your details

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Daytime phone no.: _____

Details of who you are nominating

Nominee/group name: _____

Their address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Their daytime phone no.: _____

What is your connection with this person/group?
(e.g family, neighbour, helper etc)

Tell us a bit more about them, such as their hobbies, interests etc

Your signature _____

If the person(s) you are nominating is under the age of 16 then signature of their parent/guardian

Their name
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Please select one of the following categories:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ambassador of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Champion(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh Start Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraiser of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learner Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Star Award |

Tell us in no more than 100 words why you think the person or group you are nominating deserves to win (alternatively, write your comments on a blank piece of A4 paper)

Local Specialists

Automotive

Why Pay Main Dealer Prices?

Crossways Motor Bodies

- Motor Body Work Specialists
- Insurance Approved
- From a minor bump to major repairs
- **FREE** local pick up and delivery
- **FREE** estimates and written quotes

30 Years Experience



For a **FREE** estimate call:
0121 559 4040

We also supply a car and van to none fault or insurance claims
Web: www.crosswaysmotorbodies.co.uk
email: crossways@btinternet.com

Station Road, Old Hill, Cradley Heath, B64 6PL

Builders

D H Household Maintenance

All building maintenance and DIY work undertaken
All areas covered

0121 422 8594
07985 548466

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

CLEANCARE Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners

Fully Trained
Insured
Est: over 12 years
Friendly service
For free quotes
Call
(07816) 817744
Tel: 0121 503 0854

Computers

NEED ADVICE ON COMPUTING?

- All PC Problems Resolved • Software & Hardware Installed
- Virus & Spyware Removed • PC Health Checks
- Home Network Implemented • Internet Connections Installed

DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING YOU NEED A NEW PC

Call: **0121 422 7646** or: **07970 846 552**

JUDRAP PC SUPPORT

email: support@judrap.com www.judrap.com

Decorating

HALESOWEN DECORATORS

Painters & Decorators

OAP DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
10% OFF with this advert
Residential and Commercial work undertaken
CALL **07860 206713**
0121 602 0966
halesowendecorators@gmail.com

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Professional and reliable

Fully insured
O.A.P Discounts

For a free quote call Carl

0121 561 1881

or **07532 200591**

Carpentry

CARPENTRY SERVICES

ROBERT CHESNEY
CARPENTRY / JOINERY

KITCHEN FITTING SPECIALIST
ALL CARPENTRY WORKS
ROOFS / DOORS / LOCKS
DECKING SPECIALIST

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE
0121 421 6740
07779746939



Double Glazing

Misted Sealed Units?

Black Country Glazing

Contact **US** for a **FREE** quote!

Manufacturers & Installers of
windows, doors & conservatories

'A' Rated Windows as Standard

10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Please see our customer reviews on either Homepro or Which

“Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth”

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ

Est 1987 **01384 566100**

www.blackcountryglazing.com



Driveways

ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD

- City and Guilds Streetworks Approved
- Tarmacing • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios • Landscaping
- Streetworks • Curb dropping • Turfing • Fencing and Decking
- Power Washing • 5 year guarantee FREE estimate • 15 years experience
- Fully insured • Resinbond Drives

01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419

Web: www.acepavingsservicesltd.co.uk

Email: acepavingsservices@outlook.com

Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields, Halesowen B63 2QB



Driveways & Patios

JDC Driveways & Patios

Tarmac, Block Paving, Turf Laying, Graveling, Fencing, Drainage and Pressure Cleaning

Free Quotation Online

No obligation

01384 466950 / 07944883248

www.jdcdriveways.co.uk

Driveways & Patios

Cressage Paving

Specialists in:
Block Paving, Tarmacing, Landscaping, Graveling, Patios, Forecourts, Fencing and Driveways
All Groundwork undertaken

FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION

Mini Digger & Driver available

01384 944032

Mob: **07879 073702**

www.cressage-group.co.uk

Electricians

ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work
Honest reliable service



Ring Tony or Julie on

07974 428 603

KEEP IT LOCAL

'No Job Too Small'

MB electric

All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800

For a high quality local service call:

0121 3690311

07939 503905

mbelectric.co.uk

Fencing

LBT Fencing

All types of quality fencing supplied & erected
Plus decking, slabbing & block paving

FREE QUOTES

Tel: **0121 585 9992** or **07884 344616**

www.lbtfencing.co.uk



Other services: Shed bases, slabbing and garden clearances, removal of trees, privet, old sheds and garages

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP AT COMPETITIVE PRICES • ALL AREAS COVERED

For a free quote call

0121 532 2263 or **07951 536929**

Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken

- Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
- Turfing • Garden Clearance

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Manufacturers of all Concrete Products

eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards

All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken

Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on

01384 242891 or **07970 300586**

Flooring

Arnold Laver

DUAL PATTERN REDWOOD DECKING

EX 38 x 150mm (33 x 142)

Top selling high quality deck board that is made from slow-grown Scandinavian Pine. Pressure treated for longer life and to help resist rot.

CALL NOW
QUOTE: TRADE DECKING
LIMITED STOCK

OLDBURY DEPOT

Dudley Road

Oldbury

Birmingham

West Midlands

B69 3DA

T: **0121 533 5428**

F: **0121 544 7186**

E: birmingham@laver.co.uk



ONLY £2.09
per metre
EXC VAT

Garage Doors

DB GARAGE DOORS

- Supply
- Repair
- Up and Over
- Side Hinged
- Made to measure
- FREE Survey & Quotation
- Install
- Roller
- Sectional
- Remote Control Doors

www.dbshutters.co.uk

Tel: **0121 422 1990** Mob: **07860 858378**

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation

WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK

01384 213644 or **07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,

Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified

PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES



LINDOPS LANDSCAPES

All Landscape Work Undertaken
No Job Too Small or Too Big
FREE QUOTATIONS

All aspects of Tree Surgery, Block Paving, Fencing, etc

Est. 25 Years

Ex. Botanical Gardener

0121 421 2858

07706 - 747960

R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years

Gardening & Landscaping Services

Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting

• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing

• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared

FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS

FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:

07970 876 638 • 01334 569 143

www.ragardenservices.net

Landscaping

R & S Gardens

- All garden work undertaken
- Hedges and lawns cut
- General tidy and rubbish removed
- Garden landscaping and fencing work

Telephone: **07851 323303**

CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands

Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping

Call now for a

FREE QUOTE

01902 562600 or

07539 887144

Mot's

MOT

£27.99

with this advert

FREE RE-TEST

Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,

(rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ

0121 559 6001

MOT



To advertise your business and reach more than 46,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...
mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

Local Specialists

Plastering

C.A. Plastering
For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering.

No job too small **07538 718264**

DH PLASTERERS

FROM boarding, skimming, patching and repairs TO complete rooms

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES

0121 422 8594 or 07985 548466

Pest Control

Greenlab Pest Control Ltd
A Local Established Company
Don't let insects and rodents ruin your summer!
Call the professionals
COVERING ALL AREAS OF SUDLEY & STOURBRIDGE

Tel: 01384 829115
Freephone: 0800 953 0093
Mobile: 07913 355290
www.greenlabpestcontrol.co.uk
Email: sales@greenlabpestcontrol.co.uk

Plumbing

HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)
All installations and repairs **EST 1994**
Supply and fit or fit only
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes
Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-602 6776
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

Plumbing & Heating

Property Maintenance

KEN PERRY
PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing and Immersion Heaters, Multi Point Water Heaters, Landlord's Gas Certificates, Boilers changed
Guild of Master Craftsmen Gas Safe Registered
STOURBRIDGE 392284

K S SERVICES
All types of General Repairs to your home and garden
Also interior and exterior decorating
Local Friendly Service
0121 532 4861
No Job Too Small

Roofing

ELITE PLASTICS

- Fascias • Softs • Dry Verge
- Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair

Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.

For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

Tiling

I.C.A. TILING SERVICES

Walls, floors, bathrooms, kitchens and conservatories.

Ceramic, porcelain, mosaics, slate, marble and all natural stone.

FULL BATHROOM INSTALLATION AVAILABLE

Quality workmanship at competitive prices.

Fully insured. Portfolio available.

For a free quote call Ian on
01384 412796 or 07890 894631

Window Specialists

Full Window Wizard Services Available



- Misted Units Replaced
- Broken Hinges
- Door Adjustment
- New Locks Installed

HASBURY WINDOWS Ltd.
QUALITY | VALUE | SERVICE

Call for further details
0121 421 7001

Upholstery

JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES
Specialists in Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques
CONTRACT & DOMESTIC
No Job Too Small
FREE ESTIMATES
Choice of patterns
Quality Workmanship
Blackheath
0121 561 3977 daytime
or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6 pm

Local Specialists



Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Express & Star DATING

Here's how to use your dating service ...

To Place your advert call: **0844 381 5936**

To Place your ad by text: Simply text REG followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to 80098 FREE Standard Network rates apply. **you can now Date ONLINE or via your mobile just visit: <http://dating.expressandstar.com>**

THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you... visit... <http://dating.expressandstar.com>

Single Women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

I am a 57-year-old lady, 5ft 8ins tall, short brownish hair. I am of medium build, outgoing, caring and WLTM similar male. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6024848

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+. Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673

MAY, 64, widow, GSOH, lonely and WLTM a nice, kind gentleman of similar age, hopefully someone who likes walking and animals. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428217

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715

SHEILA, 64, widow, GSOH, likes to get out and about, walking, animals, reading, classical music, WLTM a male of similar age. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428181

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

CHRISIE 42, pretty, leggy and feminine searching for romance seeks tall, dark, hunky guy to set her heart on fire. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428237

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375

DEBBIE 44, lonely and fed up with a slightly bonkers and in need of love and attention, seeks Mr Special. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428199

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, gorgeous figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 422365

PEGGY young 58, married but lonely, WLTM a nice man similar age for days, evenings out and friendship. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6025217

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box 425979

FEEMALE 66, smoker, enjoys music, TV, meals out/in, looking for male, 68-75, for friendship maybe more. Text only replies. Mailbox: 4416972

JAN 40s, small outgoing affectionate blonde, likes cuddles, seeks romantic male to share special times and bring sunshine into her life. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428089

HARRIETT 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Give me a try. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 426205

CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 426851

MARY 46, shy curvy brunette looking for someone to be a good fun friend, to laugh with and love. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428073

CAROLINE, 42yrs, well educated, sophisticated "some call me posh" married lady, looking for no strings midweek liaisons. Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box 427533

ATTRACTIVE lady 61yrs young. Looking for friendship, maybe more with genuine gent. I'm feminine and curvy. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428157

TINA, 47yrs, GSOH and good figure with average looks. I want a similar man, GSOH looks unimportant. Age is but a number, I have no car but can accommodate. Text Only. Box: 4145368

CHRISTINE, 60 something lady, blue eyed blonde. Sincere, solvent and kind. Call me if you are interested in meeting up. Looks unimportant. Must be N/S. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428155

JANE, new to area, hoping to meet an older gent. I am 38yrs, brunette with boyish leggy figure. N/S with GSOH. I've a good job and small flat which I own. Text Only. Box: 4099268

CAROL, attractive lady 55yrs young, slim, tanned, brunette. If you are genuine and looking to date then call or text me. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428153

MANDY, 64yrs but still fit and sexy. Hoping to meet younger local lad for good daytime fun. Chats and texts any time. Text Only. Box: 4050784

GENUINE caring lady 65yrs, varied interests, solvent, loves life, feminine, WLTM gent of any age for life's pleasures. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428151

PAULINE, 59yrs, nurse who loves her uniform! I'm married but work odd hours so can meet easily. ACA. Text Only. Box: 4110283

RACHAEL, 50yrs, blue-eyed attractive lady, loves films, music and home life. WLTM gent 50-70yrs. ACA or text. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428149

TRACY, 68yrs, recently retired and has time on her hands. Would love to meet a much much much younger chap for carefree times. Text Only. Box: 4006039

TAMARA, 44yrs, beautiful Indian lady seeks a Muslim gent 40+ Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428147

HELLO, my name is Pia, I am a very petite, kind and respectful Asian girl, hoping to meet an older white man. I'm 23yrs old and have just moved here. Text Only. Box: 4177099

If you are interested in meeting an attractive black lady then please call me. I'm Nikki, 57yrs, attractive, interested and kind. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428145

SLIM attractive lady, 59yrs, feminine, kind, loves life. Call me or text me your number and let's meet up. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428143

CAROL, 60 something lady with a wicked sense of humour, please call or text for more info. I promise to reply to all callers. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428141

ATTRACTIVE widow, attractive, blonde, GSOH, solvent with good figure. All that's missing is a nice man 60+. Call me if you are interested. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428139

GEORGINA, 50s, attractive, happy blonde, loves sport, theatre, seeks intelligent, lively male to share the fun of life with. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428053

LADY, 63, WLTM a gentleman of similar age, for friendship and outings. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428029

YOUR regional dating service, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR region**

To Reply to members call: **0906 500 3955**

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts e-digit box not written down and do key it in promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

To Reply by text:

Text...REPLY26 (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to 80098 eg: REPLY26 123456 hi get in touch, then send to 80098 Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (max 160 characters). You will exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

Try it... You'll love it!



Dates in YOUR region

Been left a message? Pick up your replies on:

0906 500 3957

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

SUE 53, voluptuous, outgoing, cuddly and bubbly, loves a joke and just wants fun, flirting and laughter in her life again, seeks her Mr Charming. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427913

MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled seeks active, broadminded male to share new experiences and adventures with. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427897

EMMA 56, active and always on the go, seeks fit, active, country loving guy who shares passion for the outdoors. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427811

ATTRACTIVE lady, 57yrs, great sense of humour, now looking for good times and good memories. Hoping to meet gent any age. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427883

GEMMA, 25yrs, green eyed brunette lady, loves to read raunchy books so has a huge imagination, hoping to expand upon it in real life. Call me. ACA. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427881

ATTRACTIVE lonely widow, mid 70s seeking gent for friendship. Pls call or text. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427879

STUNNINGLY attractive black lady, 50s, with blissful imagination, you have to call to hear what's on offer, you won't be sorry! Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427877

CULTURED lady with wicked sense of humour, late 60s seeking humorous man for purposeful relationship. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427875

ATTRACTIVE lady, 51yrs, loves the countryside, walking, fun times. WLTM a genuine man for romance, relationship. Call or text me. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427873

Single Men

VERY fit, elderly widower, loves walking, bird watching, exploring Europe, WLTM a lady for companionship. Please reply via box number. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428171

MALE, late 60s, N/S, retired, 5ft9, slim build, enjoys holidays abroad, weekends away, travel, meals out. Looking to meet female, N/S, who enjoys similar interests, to share good times together, for friendship and maybe more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428219

JEFF, 60s, tall, fit, young outlook, N/S, car driver, seeks similar lady for friendship, outings etc. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428175

SINGLE dad, tall, blonde hair, good looking, keeps fit, loves the cinema, meals out, looking for a single lady for date nights. Single mum welcome. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428163

Hi my name is Jay. I'm looking for a lady to have a lovely evening with, maybe once or twice a week. Looking forward to hearing from you soon. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427927

JACK 23, single, tall, young looking guy, kind and respectful, seeking female age/looks not important for mutual NSA fun. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6026038

MALE 64, fit, non-smoker, looking for NSA fun with lady, any age. I am kind and caring but miss the touch of a woman. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6025714

TALL, dark, attractive male, 56, 6ft, WLTM an attractive female, any age, for discreet fun and intimate times. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428109

MALE, attractive, 6ft2, single father, loves a laugh and a giggle, looking for a lady for evenings out, company and maybe more. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424303

PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401875

FUN loving Irish man, seeks relationship, for fun times and going out. Please get in touch. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 428077

MALE, 47, fit, slim, honest man, seeking nice, slim, honest lady for LTR, going out for drinks and having good times together. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427923

MALE, dark hair, dark eyes, slim, 47, likes walking, camping, pubs, dancing, looking for a slim, honest lady, for fun times and LTR. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427831

MALE, dark hair, dark eyes, slim, 47, likes walking, camping, pubs, dancing, looking for a slim, honest lady, for fun times and LTR. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427831

I am Kev, 57, looking for a lady in my life. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6023170

SHAUN, 50, honest, reliable, OHOC, employed, animal lover, likes walks in the country, meals out in country pubs, walking my dogs, looking for my soul mate. If you would like to know more get in touch. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427497

GENTLEMAN, kind, considerate, tactile, thoughtful and caring, hobbies include growing fuschias and vintage tractors, looking for a country girl, someone with no plans of grandeur. Truth and trust number 1 as I trust you so you tell me the truth, and vice versa. Looking for someone to hold and love forever. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427791

SINGLE male, 43, looking for female friends for txt, phone chats, maybe more. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6017886

MALE, 47, fit, slim, honest man, seeking nice, slim, honest lady for LTR, going out for drinks and having good times together. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427923

MALE 40s, 5ft 8ins, brown hair, seeks lovely honest girl for fun and friendship please. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6018513

MARK 40s, from the Birmingham area WLTM a female, any nationality, for LTR. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6016342

MALE, a young 60 would love to meet a cuddly lady. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6016333

MALE, 50, brown hair, brown eyes, average looks, 16 and a half stone, good sense of humour, animal lover with loads of love and security to give to the right person. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418783

MALE 5ft 8ins, average looks, seeking genuine, honest, caring female. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413945

Hi my name is Ben. I am 43 years old, 5ft 7, slim build, smart dressing, looking for a bored similar lady for naughty texting. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6007244

GENUINE 56yr old male, divorced, OHAC, looking for nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Wolverhampton. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405551

GENUINE male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461

MALE 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

Customer support

Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

<http://dating.expressandstar.com>

CALL CHARGES: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 0844 calls cost 7 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk/. REPLY BY TEXT*: 80098/89990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed up to 4 messages for each message you send. Service only available where phone icon shown. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. To STOP text stop to 80098/89990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message. To opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, RH16 3EG, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. Advertisers may come from our national database and from our pdc app, your ad may also appear on our dating app. wc: 07/08/17

To advertise your business and reach more than 46,000 potential customers...

Call us on...
01902 319590

E-mail us at...
mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk

Post to...
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

funeral directors

N.E.DOWNING
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent
family run
Funeral Directors

24 hour service

Halesowen
0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

monumental masons

**HALESTONE
MEMORIALS**

Modern and traditional memorials

Ring for FREE brochure
0121 550 4235

Or visit our showroom at
Somers Road,
Halesowen B62 8EN

www.halestonememorials.co.uk

1

Family

elderly & disabled

AS NEWLightweight travel wheel-
chair never been used, all acces-
sories inc. Free local delivery. £90
ono. 07919 527106/01902 784168.

ELECTRIC RECLINER Restwell
Seattle recliner, terracotta, W77 X
D99 X H115cm, cost £688, used 4
times. £300. 01384 370582.

HANDICARE MINIVATOR
SIMPLICITY LEFTHAND
STRAIGHT STAIRLIFT
Fully assembled, recently serv-
iced. Reason for sale, moved to
bungalow. Buyer to collect.
£700.
07702 806671.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS recondi-
tioned lifts from £799. New avail-
able. 01552 405337/07897 273617

2

Leisure Time

bikes

TWO GENTS BIKES one Reebok,
one Diamondback, one white, one
orange. £50 each. Ready to use.
07487 431532.

caravans / motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK NR LUDLOW
35x12 caravans from £10,000. Gym
Par 3 golf, bowls, why go further?
www.bcpark.co.uk 01584823433



CITROEN RELAY
2004. Two berth camper.
Hot and cold water.
Shower.
Cassette toilet.
Fully equipped.
Nice condition inside and out.
New MoT.
Fitted tow bar.
£6,500.
07496 172252.

We Want Your Motorhome

Finance Cleared
Fast Secure Payment
Top Prices Paid

Please Call
AEG on 01384 848439 or
Lee Jinks on 07740 895448
www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk

KAMPA RALEIGH AIR PRO inflat-
able caravan porch awning, used
twice, excellent condition, £295.
07970 841177.

**REFURBISHED CARAVAN FOR
SALE!** Central Heating and sleeps
8, £10,995. Deposits from 10%. 12
Month Park, Borth. Call Paul 07960
944721 or 01970 871933.

STATIC CARAVAN

£7,995

including 2017 rent,
Bridgnorth, private fishing and
club house.
07475 799991.

SWIFT KON-TIKI 640
MOTORHOME 1997, in good con-
dition. £12,950. 01902 747180 /
07774 889666.

camping equipment

CAMPING GEAR FOR SALE
Bought new in July 2016, only
used twice but ill health forces
sale. Berghaus Air 6 Tent with
integral ground sheet and foot-
pump and pegs. Berghaus Air
porch to suit above tent with
separate ground sheets, foot-
pump and pegs. Footprint to
suit tent. Carpet to suit Tent.
Eurohike base camp kitchen
stand. Eurohike double roll top
table. 2 Vango comfort inflat-
able mattresses. GAZ Xceler-
ate double burner cooker and
grill. Outwell 35litre coolbox and
charger. Coleman twist lantern
and courts tent heater.
Total new £1,200. £799.
07720 071528.

car boot sales

**GIANT THURSDAY
CAR BOOT SALE**

This Thursday
and every
Thursday
6am - 2pm at

Mill Lane,
Saredon WV10 7LJ
Tel: 07831 192 116

jumble sales / fetes

BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR
Sunday, 13th August
Next Sale: 27th August
**KINVER COMMUNITY
CENTRE**
DY7 6ER
10.30am - 4pm
Tel: 01384 894464

sports & leisure

ODYSSEY PUTTER as new.
£70 o.n.o.
01902 897933.

mind, body & soul

MOBILE Aromatherapy Massage
Therapist Home / Hotel. To book
appointments call 07437 569187.

what's on

antique fairs

**ANTIQUE/
COLLECTORS
VINTAGE FAIR**
CORNBOW HALL, HAGLEY STREET,
HALESOWEN, B63 3AT
18TH AUGUST
8.00AM - 4PM
07783 680 627

markets

**STOURBRIDGE
CAR BOOT**

At Stourbridge
Rugby Club
Open every Wednesday
from 24th May

07957 399964

holidays

travel abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED
to check with any Advertisers
that their holiday costs are fully
covered by a recognised bonding or
insurance scheme.

3

Home & Services

furniture

CHILDS BED
solid wood, teddy bear
headboard, mattress and side
panels £50 ono.
Pine desk bureau. £50 ono.
Pine Welsh Dresser top.
£50 ono.
01384 392518.

TWO SEATER sofa in green dralon
fabric, good condition, £40 o.n.o.
01902 334366.

in your garden

ELECTRIC CEMENT MIXER, £60.
Wheelbarrow, unused, £20. 01384
296937. Must collect.
GARDEN SHED 12ft x 7ft. Pent roof.
Good condition. Must be dismant-
led and removed. Free to collector.
07973 976791.

items wanted

A Genuine Lady Buyer!
Cash paid £300+ per ounce for 9 car-
at scrap gold. Any amount collected!
Sovereigns £200+ each, Watches,
Coins, Medals & more
Highly Recommended
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A BEST CASH PRICE

**FOR ALL RAILWAY
COLLECTIONS**
Any gauge or age
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/
Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/
any live steam. Also Die Cast,
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219/07891 713547
thetrainmaster67@
hotmail.com



A BEST CASH PRICE PAID
FOR DIE CAST CARS /
LORRIES / TOY SOLDIERS
Air fix, Britains, Corgi, Dinky,
Spot on, Tri-ang.
Best prices paid.
Any condition.
Collections bought.
Telephone 01922 327897
or 07976 691563.

ALL BRASS / COPPER ornaments/
brassware, all descriptions, miners
lamps, old medals, dinky, corgi toys
and railways. 01902 745598.

WANTED

**ALL MILITARIA ITEMS
FROM WARS WANTED BY
COLLECTOR**

Swords, medals, helmets etc,
single or full items.

German, Japanese, British.

Will collect.

Very good prices paid
07511 500337.

AUTO MEMORABILIA WANTED

**SHELL, ESSO,
CASTROL ETC**

ALSO

GARAGE CLEARANCES

Old Enamel Signs,

Petrol Cans,

Old Jugs,

Bikes and Motorbikes.

Anything old.

**** TOP PRICES PAID ****

01384 836219/07891 713547

MAMOD STEAM engines/trains
wanted all conditions, railway col-
lections, Dinky, Corgi vehicles, any
condition. 01902 745598.

READERS ARE ADVISED
to carefully consider all of their options
before agreeing to the sale of any
of their items.

SPECTRUM GAMES Wanted, plus
any old Crash magazines wanted,
also any old your Sinclair maga-
zines wanted. 01902 892919.

WANTED perfumes, new or old,
used or unused, Christian Dior,
Chanel, YSL, Jane, 07716 371694.

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST
Any TV Repairs, Plasma, LED etc,
CCTV cameras supplied & fitted.
Any area. Free Estimates. 7 days.
Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall
mounts / TV setups. 07850 330251.

specialists at your service

aerials

THANK YOU CLASSIFIEDS!



"I am very pleased
with the response
I get from my
Classified
Advertising
Contract"

Steve -
AA Digital Aerials

For great business
results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

**AA DIGITAL
AERIALS**
AERIALS FITTED FROM £75
01902 858191 • 01384 429166
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST
CCTV cameras fitted/tv wallmount,
free quote to any area. 07850 330251

alarms/security

**PREMIER
ALARMS**

Supplied and Fitted £249
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

building supplies

**QUALITY DOORS AND HARD-
WOOD FLOORING** @ low prices;
Call Arnold Laver 0121 533 5428.

fencing

**PORTWAY
FENCING**
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts,
gravel boards. £695
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
63 Portway Rd, W'bury
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

THANK YOU CLASSIFIEDS!



"I am extremely happy
with the service I get
from my Express &
Star Classified Sales
Representatives and
would recommend
them to anyone! They
have done a very
professional job with
my website so I get
online enquiries as
well now."

Michael-
Portway Fencing

For great business
results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

gardening services

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per
garden. 25 years experience. Call
01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid
for house clearances experience.
Also removals undertaken.
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

plastering

**M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING
Services.** Home/Garden Improve-
ments. Mark or Sara: 07741 770897
STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE
Clean and Reliable. All Work
Undertaken. All Areas. Call
0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

removals

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your
Removal needs, 07429 453209/
01902 830670 / 01384 940260.

rubbish removal

LET'S TALK RUBBISH No Skips
Needed/Load/Remove any Waste,
House Clearance. 07969 628382

roofing

We specialise in:
New Roofing, Re Roofing,
Leak Repairs, Emergency
Repairs, Lead Work,
Tiling and Slating.
07935 595180 0121 4204374
www.stoppsandpage.co.uk

4
Pets &
Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to
check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies
have the required Passport infor-
mation.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that
they meet all necessary legal
requirements for owning and using
guns.

pets corner

HAVE YOU CHECKED your adver-
tisement today? We would respect-
fully remind advertisers that it is
their responsibility to inform the
publishers of any mistakes or inac-
curacies on the first day of publica-
tion.

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when
purchasing a puppy there are
some simple guidelines you can
follow to ensure that you are not
purchasing from a Puppy
Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy
whilst it is still with it's
Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a
puppy from any other location
than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any
KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News
Association publications take
great care to avoid publication
of advertisements from Puppy
Farmers we cannot accept any
liability should readers
purchase from this kind of
establishment.

FRENCH BULLDOG PUPS, 1 black
and white pied boy, 1 brindle boy,
1 blue boy and 1 black girl. KC reg.
Microchipped, heat treated and vac-
cinated. Ready August 20. £1,750.
Telephone 07970 912690.

JESS AND TITCH

These two girls are very pretty,
small Border Collie's, aged
approx 3 years. They are both
very loving, affectionate little
dogs, well behaved and good in
car. Titch has a small leg defor-
mity which she was born with
but does not bother her at all.
We would like these two girls to
go together but would consider
separating if right homes were
found.

Also other dogs available in
rescue.

For more information please
call Carol on 01588 676106.



ROSEDEEN RESCUE CENTRE

1, Radley Road, Rushall,
Walsall, WS4 1LN.
01922 627013.
Open Monday to Saturday
11am - 5pm.
Sundays - Bank Holidays
11am - 4pm.
Takes in relinquished dogs
from owners, all areas (if they
are vet checked/up to date with
jabs.)
Donations of dog food, toys,
bedding and vet bills always
appreciated.

TESSIE

Tessie is a very small pretty tri-
colour Border Collie, aged 14
months. She loves her walks
and likes to play with her toys in
the garden. Good with other
dogs and would benefit from
having another one as a com-
panion. She is an intelligent girl
but is a bit needy at the moment,
vaccinated/microchipped and
slightly underweight and in a
foster home.

If you could offer this little girl a
permanent home or for more
information please call

Carol on 01588 676106.

WANTED. Aviary birds for large
private aviary. Also pigeons and
poultry for beginner and parrot for
house pet. 07970 485491.

5
Business &
Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to
take appropriate professional
advice before entering into any
obligations.

6
Property

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial commit-
ments.

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial commit-
ments/contracts.

NOTICE TO READERS
It is an offence under the Accom-
modation Agencies Act 1983, for an
Agency to charge a fee simply for
the registration of your require-
ments and/or supplying particulars
of premises to let.

FLAT TO LET

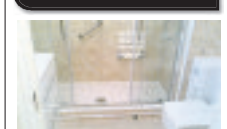
WEDNESFIELD
Fully furnished, refurbished to
high standard, with off road
parking, would suit working
gent, age 45+.
£85pw including some bills.
01902 304258.

PERTON modern one bed ground
floor flat, with parking. Suit profes-
sional. £100pwk. 07931 939349

SMART SINGLE ROOMS in Shared
house, Netherpton. £85 p.w. inc. inc.
bills. No DSS. 2 weeks deposit.
07940 116130.

WILLENHALL, luxury room, fur-
nished, working person, £50p/w.
Telephone 07401 089298.

houses for sale



BRIDGNORTH RETIREMENT
Apartment for over 60s. One
large bedroom, full refurb luxury
shower room and kitchen, new
decor and carpeted throughout,
large lounge with Juliet balcony.
Riverside situation with nice
views, private car parking, easy
access to town. Totally secure
and managed 24/7. Offers
around £115,000. 07971
279249 for details / viewings.

mobile homes



**FULLY RESIDENTIAL
CHALET/BUNGALOW**

36 x 20

Country location, very private
with lounge, kitchen / diner, hall,
3 bedrooms, double glazed, oil
fired central heating, garden.

Telephone

07535 905818

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE
**RESIDENTIAL RETIREMENT
SITE**

Knowlesands, Bridgnorth.
Atlas 39ft, 2 bedroom.
1 en suite.

Beautiful views across River
Severn Valley and Severn
Valley Railway runs at rear of
site.

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME! FAST 4 Your House CASH

You agree the price, we buy the house...
 • NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
 • FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500 30 yrs

www.black-countryhomes.co.uk * subject to terms

Need to sell your home fast?

We can help you make a fresh start

With solutions to suit ... you can clear your debts and make a fresh start

Purchase Agreed Within 7 DAYS

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED
 COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
 FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
 FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
 LOCAL COMPANY

MARION | PROPERTY SOLUTIONS
 WHY NOT CALL US TODAY for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
0121 405 0797 *Terms and Conditions apply
 OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

Houses / Land Required

Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**

Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
 Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 433209
 Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
 www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

THANK YOU CLASSIFIEDS!

"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!
 Our directory page on expressandstar.com has generated extra activity on our website."

Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer

ClassifiedAds
 Brought to you by Express & Star

For great business results call

01902 319 191

7

Jobs

8

Motoring

courses

cars under £1500

**MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
JOBSDAY**

jobs.expressandstar.com

ECONOMICAL

CITROEN BELLINGO MULTI SPACE 1.4 LPG

06 reg.,
 12 months MoT, red, 83,000 miles, new shockers and windscreen, good condition.
 Cheap to run.

£1,500
07988 273136.

BIRMINGHAM: 25-26 SEPT & 30 NOV.-1 DEC.
STOKE: 2-3 SEPT. **TELFORD:** 23-24 OCT.
WOLVERHAMPTON: 16-17 SEPT.

Learn how to take blood TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

NATIONALLY RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED

Introduction to Phlebotomy

TWO DAY COURSE - National UK Qualification

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

For more info or to book: **www.geopace.com**

HIGH DEMAND IN: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - Community - MOD

Classified Ads

cars over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE



MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE

Registered 17.11.2009. Chili pack, full leather, FSH, MoT, only 32k, excellent condition.

Genuine reason for sale.
£5,750
01902 831297 / 07889 030875.



BMW Z3 ROADSTER

2000, 29,840 Miles, Topaz Blue, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, alarm, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, one owner, pas, Alloys,

£4,000.00 ono
07443 595540



CITROEN C2 RHYTHM

Very low mileage at 30,300, 1.1L engine, 58 plate (2008), black, 2 female owners, abs, electric windows, s/h, MoT, central locking, pas, stereo, CD.

£1,800 ono.
07468 869622.



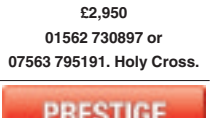
CITROEN C2 RHYTHM

05, 73k, 2dr, Auto, petrol, Grey. Light grey interior. FSH, sensors all round. 7 spoke alloys, very sporty looking car. Lady owner. Beautiful condition, £2,850 ono. 01384 341641 / 07982 244856. Genuine callers only.



MERCEDES C180 KOMPRESSOR

05, 73k, 2dr, Auto, petrol, Grey. Light grey interior. FSH, sensors all round. 7 spoke alloys, very sporty looking car. Lady owner. Beautiful condition, £2,850 ono. 01384 341641 / 07982 244856. Genuine callers only.



MERCEDES E270 CDI

2004, 139000 miles, MOT to Jan 2018, Elegance trim, Full leather, Climate, Sat nav, 6 CD, Full history, Just serviced, Excellent condition,

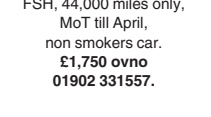
£2,950
01562 730897 or
07563 795191. Holy Cross.



MERCEDES E350 CDI SE AUTO COUPE

2009, panoramic glass sunroof, command sat nav, memory package, 17ins alloys, 6 disc CD/ DVD changer, 130k with FSH.

May PX for cheaper car.
£8,950 ono
07836 204450 /
deolsuk@hotmail.co.uk



MGF SPORTS CAR

1999, BRG, VVC engine, one previous owner, original car, leather seats, veneer dash, FSH, 44,000 miles only, MoT till April, non smokers car. £1,750 ovno 01902 331557.

EXCELLENT CONDITION

PEUGEOT 1600 307 SPORT

Manual 5dr hatchback, petrol, 56 Reg., black metallic, leather interior, one year MoT, automatic wipers, lights, air con, one previous owner, must be seen, no dealers, 52,000 miles only.

£1,750 o.n.o.
01384 279865.



RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE

2010, 32,000 miles, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, MoT, central locking, pas, stereo.

£2,699.
07879 403302.

THIS COULD BE YOURS

TOYOTA AGO

2010, 998cc, Group 1 insurance, lots of MoT, £20 tax per year, excellent condition.

£1,595
07851 213316.



VAUXHALL ASTRA

2009, 42,600 miles, convertible grey, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, alarm, long MoT, full Vauxhall service history.

£2,800.
07940 198062.



VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4SRI

2012, 3dr, white, 42,000 miles, usual SRI refinements, fsh, MoT June 2018, lady owner, new car, reason for sale,

£4,250 ono.
07855 370328.



VOLVO S60 D5

54 reg, 60,000 miles, one owner, FSH, metallic blue, power heated leather setas, Bi-Xenon lights, Dolby radio, 6CD and more.

Immaculate.
£2,350 ono.
01902 380424.



VW FOX

2007, 1.4, petrol, 84,000 miles, fsh, one previous owner, electric windows, a/c, superb condition.

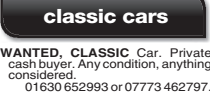
£1,495 ono.
07977 939497.

EXCELLENT CONDITION

VW PASSAT 2.0TDI 150GT

Feb 2015, new model, harvard blue, 18ins alloys, half leather, navigation, cruise, 124k motorway miles, main dealer 6 services, excellent.

£10,750
01902 791976.



VAUXHALL COMBI 1700 DIESEL

04 plate. 12 months MoT. Good runner. Good condition. Stereo. Roof rack.

£1,500.
07932 084639.

BARGAIN

VAUXHALL COMBI 1700 DIESEL

04 plate. 12 months MoT. Good runner. Good condition. Stereo. Roof rack.

£695.
01902 862610.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY

YAMAHA TRX850

Black, great condition. £1,700 No offers. 0121 557 5852.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
 Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or
0121 557 0400.
 Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars

Used cars wanted for cash Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.
01562 711083 /
07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 54849, buyer will call.

WANTED

WANTED SMALL CLEAN CAR

any make, good runner, reliable, up to £400. Anything considered.
07548 684497.

9

Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
 For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10

Personals

personal

ATTRACTIVE MALE 38

If you are looking for a genuine, honest, caring male who is fun to be around, then look no further!

I enjoy cycling, bowling, cinema, pubs, meals out, walks, holidays etc and would like to meet a like minded mature lady aged 30 to 44 years.

All areas considered. Genuine replies only. Photo appreciated (returned).
Box Number P20890 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

ATTRACTIVE MALE, 56

Slim-Medium build, own house and car, kind and caring, enjoys weekends away and holidays abroad.

WLTm attractive slim female, similar age and interests for long term relationship. . Photo please, will return.
Box Number P20898 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENTLEMAN, 63

Slim, caring nature, very good sense of humour, enjoys meals out, walks, nights in and out, car owner, no ties WLTm a similar slim lady of similar age for hopefully long term relationship.

This is a genuine ad and would appreciate genuine replies only.

Are you fedup of spending too much time alone? If so drop me a line.

Box Number C20908,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE KIND CARING GENTLEMAN

Own home and car, WLTm a lady to spoil and share the nice things in life.

Box Number P20885 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

INDIAN MALE

45 WLTm lady 30-55 for fun and Friendship.
Box Number P20889 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

3 stars

LADY 63

Blonde attractive, GSOH, N/S, very active, seeks Gentleman for Friendship, evenings out, theatre, music, pub, dancing etc.

All letters answered.

Box Number C20905 ,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LADY 63

Honest, caring non smoker with varied interests.

WLTm a similar gentleman 57-68 to share all the good things in life.

Solvent, car owner and GSOH required.

Recent photo would be appreciated which will be returned.

Box Number P20895,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

RETIRED ACTIVE GENTLEMAN

Own house and car. WLTm slim sophisticated lady for sharing and caring times together.

Box Number P20897,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

sports clubs



COVEN UNITED FC

Are currently looking for players at U9's, U10's, U12's and U17's playing in the BPYFL.

Contact Jayne on
07810 587190

For more details after 5pm.



CRESSWELL WANDERERS FC

Community Charter Standard Club

All coaches CRC and FA Level 1 minimum.

U16's require Goalkeeper.

Contact Steve 07837 489839.

U8's require Manager.

Contact Ronnie

07717 677627.

Academy requires players ages 4 & 5.

Contact Ronnie

07717 677627.

general

CARAVAN HOLIDAY PACKAGES FOR SALE

Caravan adapted for disabled person, sleeps 6, Holiday is for August 25 to August 28, Holiday Resort Unity Brean Sands, Somerset, pets welcome.

All transferable, no fee.

£450.

Telephone 07581 157356.

COLIN

Sorry telephone problems. Please contact for new telephone number.

Box Number P20902 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LOOKING FOR VAL

from Wolverhampton.

She had private

Car Reg 'VAL' in 2011.

Please contact Brian.

Box Number P20903,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



Ron Flowers unveils the new facilities with the Mayor and Mayoress of Stafford and club officials



Looking at a tribute to founder Charlie Holt are committee members Graham Williams and Terry Homer

Flowers helping Brocton to blossom for the future

WOLVES legend Ron Flowers officially unveiled new facilities at a club where his grandson – now with Premier League Burnley – cut his teeth.

England World cup winner Flowers, the oldest member of the 1966 squad, and who made 467 games for the Molineux club, opened the £150,000 hospitality suite at Brocton FC's Silkmore Lane.

From a thistle-strewn wasteland to an award-winning football ground, it is fair to say the Badgers' home has changed a bit over the past 10 years.

The hospitality suite marks the latest stage in its development.

The facility was funded by grants from the Premier League's Football Stadia Improvement and Sport England and is the perfect present for a club which will next month mark its 80th birthday.

The Badgers might have been relegated to the sixth tier of non-league football last season but there has been much to celebrate, not least in the departure to Burnley of two of their players, Aidan Stone and Ron's grandson Harry.

And with a fully licensed bar, the new facility also means pre and post-match routines will never be the same again.

Custom

"This gives people the chance to turn up a bit earlier for games and stay a bit later afterwards," explained chairman Brian Townsend.

"Before now we have had to go to the pub after games. That was fine but we always wanted to have our own facility.

"Of course, I'm guessing the pub might be a bit upset to lose our custom but I think they understand!

"We are also trying to attract community groups to use the suite during the week. First and foremost we are a community amateur sports club. That is the way it has always been."

Townsend and the rest of Brocton's hard-working and passionate committee of volunteers can look on with pride at the transformation brought to a site which was covered in knee-high thistles and graffiti

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

"We don't have a lot to offer players other than a good pitch to play on. Now we have a lot more to offer them as well."

when the club acquired a 30-year lease in 2006. For the few years prior to that, the Badgers had lived a somewhat nomadic existence.

Formed in 1937, the club was for years based in the village of Brocton before the success of the team necessitated a change of venue in order to comply with the ground regulations for higher leagues.

The first switch was to Rowley Park Stadium in Stafford and then to Cannock Stadium, before a brief spell at Heath Hayes' Newlands Lane ground.

Finally, after discussions with Staffordshire Council and Police Authority, a lease was acquired for the former Police Grounds on Silkmore Lane – though the hard work was just beginning.

The site, which sits some two miles south of Stafford town centre, had been allowed to go fallow after the police moved out in the late 1990s.

A £58,750 grant from the Big Lottery Fund got the ball rolling and allowed the club to build changing rooms. Football returned to the site for the 2008-09 season, when Brocton's first team were playing in the Midland Combination League.

"We have always tried to attract players with the facilities we have," said Townsend.

"They are now obviously much better than before. That is the most we can offer. We can't pay players. It is for them to aim at a higher level.

"The pitch is important. Our groundsman Terry Homer has been rated the best nationally since 2011 at steps five and six of the non-league pyramid.

"We do invest a lot of money into the ground and

the pitch itself. We have cutting machines. We don't have a lot to offer players other than a good pitch to play on. Now we have a lot more to offer them as well."

Townsend's own association with the club stretches back more than 50 years to when he was a player.

He is not the only one who has stuck around. President Graham Williams and groundsman Homer, who is also club secretary, have also racked up more than 50 years with the club.

Former chairman Lionel Morris, who first played for the club in the 1940s, is still a regular attendee, while Barbara and Brian Chandler work tirelessly to ensure kits are washed and programmes are printed.

"There does seem to be something about this place which keeps people around," said Townsend.

"The club's founder Charlie Holt was very adept at getting people involved and that seems to have been continued."

Brocton began their season on Saturday with an FA Cup extra preliminary round tie at Cadbury Athletic, which they won 3-0.

Sam Norton has taken charge of first-team affairs and is targeting a top six finish following relegation from the Midland Premier Division last term.

Catastrophe

The fall to Division One was a disappointment yet far from a catastrophe for the Badgers, who were able to claim a significant coup when the Clarets came calling for keeper Stone and defender Flowers. They were both back at Silkmore Lane as Burnley took their under-23s squad for a friendly, winning the game 3-1 in front of a 200-strong crowd.

"Things like that are almost unprecedented," said Townsend. "I can't think of many who have made the jump from our level to the Premier League.

"Of course we are ambitious and want to get to the next level but only if we can sustain it.

"We want to be stable financially and sustainable with playing strength. We need to keep growing our own players. That really is our aim.

"We want one of the best grounds at the level we play and to give young people the best opportunity to advance in football.

"Harry and Aidan are examples of that. We are on that track."



Manager Sam Norton and under-21s boss Steve Barrow



Harry Flowers and Brocton's Joe Hartshorne

Boxing bill down but not out after injuries

A SPATE of home corner withdrawals forced a professional boxing show in Dudley last week to be cancelled. The bill at The Venue, Dudley, has been rescheduled to September 29.

Organisers were forced to pull the plug with just three fights left on the card due to injuries to Tyler Denny and Daryl Pearce. Only Les Byfield, Kane Baker and Ekow Essuman were clear to box. Essuman had already replaced Raza Hamza.

Denny suffered a hand injury in training, putting paid to his six-round contest against Matthew Wigglesworth. The middleweight from Rowley Regis will concentrate on his next contest, a Midlands middleweight title fight against Tom Stokes on September 30.

Super feather Byfield is set to be a part of the next Venue show, as will Pearce, who will first focus on a battle with Conor Benn on September 1.

Tickets for last weekend can be exchanged for a full refund, or will be valid for the next show. For more information, go to the point of purchase.

On Edge of glory as Tom crosses ocean

A WOLVERHAMPTON teenager is heading across the pond to fulfil his ambition of becoming a professional footballer. Tom Edge, aged 18, has secured a four-year scholarship at Campbellsville University, Kentucky.

The former AFC Telford United youngster, who was previously on Walsall's book as a teenager, will combine a degree in sports management with playing for the university's soccer team, Campbellsville Tigers.

His proud father, Andy, said: "Their first game is at the end of August. He is going to be doing a degree in sports management. It's a full-scholarship, so a four-year degree. He'll be getting a good education, while playing football for a side that has the facilities of a proper club."

Tom, who moved to Telford from Perton, recently completed his sixth form studies at Codsall Community High School. There he combined his studies with playing regular football for the school's team and as part of the two-year course, he went out to America to play in a tournament. As well as playing for Codsall, he started off last season with AFC Telford's first team.

Aces on track for a night of fundraising

WEDNESFIELD Aces are on track for a fundraising night next month. The cycle speedway side is making the final preparations for the event in memory of Steph Clarke on September 15.

Mrs Clarke died in November 2016 at the same time as Wednesfield was enjoying its new Christmas lights – she had been the driving force behind its fundraising. She had been involved in several community projects including the Aces, Hands on Wednesfield and volunteered at the Ashmore Community Centre as well as running photography classes and working full-time as a social media trainer. Steph and her husband James founded the community website wv11.co.uk.

Sixteen riders will compete in five heats each in a handicap formula under the floodlights at the club's Ashmore Park home. Each participant is expected to raise £50 and there will be a collection bucket and a raffle on the evening in aid of Compton Hospice. All riders will take home an award and the overall winner will take home the Steph Clarke Challenge Shield.



Heathens are united with trust in plan

CRADLEY director Nigel Pearson insists they are fully supportive of the planning application submitted by the Cradley Speedway Supporters' Trust.

Pearson says previous issues with the trust have been left in the past and they will continue to back the plans to bring speedway back to the area. And although he still has concerns regarding how receptive Sandwell Council will be to the idea of the new track, he is optimistic their objective could be achieved.

Pearson said: "Many will wonder what the 'issue' has been between ourselves and the Trust, needless to say our views have been passed on to their board.

"There have been many social media outbursts about ourselves as a management team - individual libel and slander - which have made it impossible to work with certain individuals on the board. As far as we are concerned these matters have now been dealt with and we have a very sound mutual understanding going forward and we will leave it at that because we want to focus totally on supporting this application.

"During the many hours we have spent looking at sites and talking to council officers and leaders - and this also applies to Bob Edwards, Chris Haynes, Tony Mole and others - dismissal of plans have been all too easy and convenient.

"I note the Sandwell Council leader has already expressed concern about objections from residents. I sincerely hope this proves not to be the case.

"A new track is all we have ever wanted since we started this project eight seasons ago."

Cradley are next in action against Birmingham at Monmore in a crunch derby clash on Monday, August 21.

Handy winning draw keeps hopes afloat

STOURBRIDGE'S cricketers took on Lichfield, one of the favourites for promotion from division three of the Birmingham and District League, and came away with a much-needed 15 points from a winning draw.

A rain disrupted match saw Jade Richter and Zain Ul Hassan grab seven wickets between them. Six wickets went down for 70 runs but Lichfield recovered to 162 off 52 overs courtesy of the late order. Richter ended with 4-37.

Losing an hour-and-three-quarters for rain meant Stour was left with 20 overs with a target of 162 for victory. Realistically though, a winning draw target of 87 was much more within reach. Stour made the worst possible start losing opener Alex Bingham in the first over caught off James Wilkinson for a duck.

Juhar Johal put away his first delivery for six but was bowled on 16 by Adam Peat. Debutant Scott Ludlam (26) and skipper Josh Banks (18 not out) saw Stour home to a winning draw, with five wickets down.

DK rotate squad for impressive win

DKRFC started their pre-season matches with a 29-17 victory at Bridgnorth.

The game was split into four 20-minute periods. The refereeing of the ruck and maul showed both teams what they can expect this season, and it led to an entertaining game with both teams able to use the resulting quick ball and maintain the pace of the attack.

The first quarter was keenly fought, with the opening period being played mainly between the two 10 metre lines and the defences holding firm,

Bridgnorth started to build towards the end of the quarter, and opened the scoring with a try by their left winger.

Changes were made to both sides and the second quarter followed a similar pattern. Bridgnorth were able to play on the front foot and were able to stretch the DK defence and managed to pierce the defence twice with two unconverted tries. The third quarter proved pivotal, DK's side for this quarter was made up of the Development and Wasps players mainly, and who certainly put

in a shift. They scored twice - one through the forwards. Matt Perkes was last up, and received the congratulations of his team-mates, 17-5.

DK's second try of the quarter followed good driving play by Sam Pedley, which allowed Will Hancox in. DK opened the scoring in the fourth quarter. Stef Shillingford was able to force his way over - 15-17. Jordan Brookes dived over for 22-17, and a penalty try due to a stray Bridgnorth forward completed the scoring 29-17 to DK.

The Heathbrook faithful certainly enjoyed the game and were impressed by the performance.

CRICKET CLUB LOOKS AHEAD

IT is a picturesque cricket club tucked away in a housing estate.

For some residents, who have lived there for half a century, they didn't even know the place existed.

But Pedmore Cricket Club, formed in 1887, is building for the future. The historic club, located on Pedmore Hall Lane, has recently completed a £46,000 redevelopment which has seen the clubhouse expanded and redecorated from head to toe.

Being a community club, many of its members have clipped in and carried out a lot of the work to save money.

The work has been done to modernise its facilities and help to accommodate more players and supporters, which club bosses want to draw in.

Existed

Mick Bourne, aged 72, club treasurer, said: "We encourage people from the area to come along and watch the cricket. Most of them come along and say they never knew the place existed, they have probably lived in Pedmore for 50 years."

As the club is community led, its members give up their own time to help run things behind the scenes. The men's first team play in the Worcestershire First Division where they currently sit fourth from bottom after 15 matches.

The club have several senior sides which play on Saturdays and Sundays. Pedmore also boast a number of junior teams across different age groups, some of whom are attached to Worcestershire. "We have got a couple of girls in too and players at all age groups," Bourne added.

The revamp includes a new kitchen, while the interior features new shutters, tables and chairs. "The work has been done to modernise the club," said Bourne.

"We have extended the main room by 50 per cent, which has increased the capacity of our existing pavilion from around 80 seats to about 130. This means we can hold bigger functions."



Pedmore, where they have had an extension, including new kitchen, is shown off by treasurer Mick Bourne

Runners stumble over to Stourbridge

AUGUST is always a quiet month for races for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club.

But they didn't have far to look for some competition with a race at Mary Steven's Park - Stourbridge Stumble 10k.

A race hosted by Stourbridge Running Club over paths, tracks

and a bit of tarmac out into the countryside it covered 6.2 miles in distance and returned to the park to finish.

Tipton Harriers claimed most of the prizes with Gary Whitehouse taking victory in 37.39 and club mate Steve Brookes finishing runner up in 38.20. In the ladies race Emily Lagomars-

ino of San Domenico RC claimed first place in 40.35. Lynne Hill was second in 42.44.

Darran Bishop led the Blue Hoops home, claiming 11th place in 41.12. Dave Norman was 15th in 42.28. Helen Tromans finished in 37th place in 47.32 and claimed first in her age group.

Glassboys' final friendly ends in loss

STOURBRIDGE FC open their new league campaign on Sunday when the Glassboys host Matlock Town at the War Memorial Ground - kick-off 3pm.

Gary Hackett's men are hoping to go one step further than last season when they lost out in the Evo-stik League play-off final to Spennymoor Town.

Stourbridge went down 1-0 in their final pre-season fixture at Hereford FC in the Herefordshire FA Senior Invitation Cup Final.

The Glassboys were without Jack Duggan with a rib injury and Leon Broadhurst through illness and they lost Connor Gater to a toe injury in the warm-up, meaning Bobby Moseley came into the starting line-up.

James Bowen had an early chance for the hosts as he burst into the box, but Aris Christophorou recovered his ground well to deflect the ball behind for a corner. Jordan Murphy had the Glassboys' best opportunity of the half on 30 minutes, but he was denied by home keeper Martin Horsell.

Three minutes after the re-start a mistake by Stuart Pierpoint allowed Keyon Reffell to break away and he pulled a low cross back towards the edge of the box for Garyn Preen and his low shot beat Matt Gould, however Paul McCone had got back on the goal-line to clear.

With eight minutes remaining Hereford forged in front with Jimmy Oates directing home a near post header from Bowen's right-wing flag-kick for the winning goal.

Reece's fantastic race at Tamworth

YOUNG Black Country Triathlete Reece Ashfield had a fantastic race again this weekend at the BRAT Sprint Triathlon held at Cliff Lakes in Tamworth. He came home second overall in a time of 1:04:13 following a 750m open water swim, 22km bike and 5km run; his run time was a fast 15:45.

Slightly further afield David Nash competed in The Cowman middle distance race in Emberton Country Park. The race started at Emberton Sailing clubs with a 1.9km swim in the lake before heading out on the two lap 92km bike from Olney, finishing with a 21km run around the lake.

*** The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, August 10, 2017

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING The recycled content of newspapers in 2015 was 62.8%



Angling Direct Halesowen

176 Long Lane, Halesowen, Birmingham B62 9EP

☎: 0121 2275 665

www.anglingdirect.co.uk

✉: info@anglingdirect.co.uk

